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OAPEC STRESSES NEED FOR ARAB OIL EXPLORATION FIRM

Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 7 Dec 81 p 6

[Text]

ABU DHABI, Dec 6: The establishment of an Arab company for petroleum exploration received new emphasis today, when Dr. Ali Attiqa, Secretary General of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) said that the establishment of such a company is of "strategic and national importance," according to a report issued by the official UAE News Agency, WAM.

WAM said that during the meeting of the OAPEC in Abu Dhabi today, the secretary general stressed the need of such an establishment and said "this achievement would provide some sort of Arab independence in the field of oil exploration which is mainly dependent on the expertise of major multinational companies."

He pointed out that certain countries which have been investing heavily in exploration and saw huge amounts of their monies going towards payments to foreign companies to carry out the exploration, had time and again suggested the carrying out of a feasibility study for such a company.

This company would ensure that the Arab investment in exploration would remain in the Arab world and could be used further by the institutions in which the monies are deposited to carry out other projects beneficial to the Arab world.

Time consuming

"But," the secretary general pointed out, "such a study would be time consuming and difficult."

He added, however, that such huge amounts are being paid to foreign companies to carry out exploration, that an Arab company would prove to be economical no matter how much money is put in.

Speaking about the company, he said that it has been suggested in the 17 point OAPEC agenda that the company be an autonomous one shared by the national oil companies, banks and insurance companies, in the area.

Dr. Ali Attiqa added that the agenda also included the possibility of establishing a dry dock in Algiers. He added that a committee comprising of oil ministers of Algeria, Libya and Bahrain had presented a recom-

mendation calling for atleast signing of an agreement showing what Arab states would like to participate and to what degree in the \$500 million project.

Tunis entry

Commenting on another item on the agenda, that of Tunis' entry into OAPEC, he said that that country fulfilled all the needs to become an OAPEC member. If admitted, Tunis will become the tenth member.

The other members are UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Libya, Algeria, Syria and Iraq. Egypt's membership in the Organisation was suspended after it signed the unilateral peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

He said that Tunis with its proven reserves of 2 billion barrels of oil could play an active role in the organisation. The country exports 55,000 barrels of oil daily and nearly 47 per cent of its income comes from oil.

The Secretary General said that tomorrow's session will discuss the establishment of an Arab petroleum training centre. This centre is a necessity, he said, in addition to regular seminars and symposiums organised by OAPEC, he said.

CSO: 4400/92

AFGHANISTAN

CONVERSION TO ISLAM REPORTEDLY DEMANDED OF SOVIET PRISONERS

Paris LE MONDE in French 23 Dec 81 p 30

[Text] Allah-Jirga (Afghanistan)--Two Soviet soldiers captured by the Muslim guerrillas affirmed that they will be executed because they refuse to convert to Islam.

At the Allah-Jirga camp in the province of Zabol, along the Pakistani border, the AFP correspondent in Islamabad, Alain Faudex, and about 10 other foreign newsmen were able to talk with the two Russians, as well as with a third Soviet soldier of Turkoman origin, who were captured 6 months ago by the fundamentalist organization Hezb-i Islami.

"It is useless to make my mother sad," said Valeryi Anatolievich Didenko, an 18-year-old Ukrainian simple soldier in a tank-repair unit, when the newsmen offered to transmit letters to his family. Using two interpreters from the Hezb-i Islami who translated his words in Persian and then in English, he said that "he knows he will die and is prepared for it."

Sergeant Yuri Grigorievich Povarnitsin, 19, a conscript from Sverdlosk in the Urals, affirmed that he had been spared "solely for propaganda needs," and that he will probably be executed. He stated that "he would prefer to kill himself rather than remain a prisoner indefinitely.

Mengal Hossein, spokesman for the Hezb-i Islami, explained that "according to Islamic law, prisoners must convert in order to be spared and that only the Turkoman prisoner, Muhammed Kuli Yazkouliev, whose father was a Muslim, has expressed the intention of converting."

Having affirmed that the other two Soviet prisoners had refused to become Muslim, Hossein declared that the leader of his party, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and its "political committee" would render a decision based on "Islamic principles," but he refused to specify whether the two prisoners would be executed.

The Allah-Jirga camp commandant also presented three Soviet Tajiks (Moslems) who escaped from the USSR where, they said, "they are not allowed to practice their religion." The three young men, students at a vocational school, who spoke in Russian and Persian, affirmed that they would like to fight alongside the Afghans and then in Tajikistan to free it from the Russians.

Another organization headed by the religious leader Yunis Kholes, is holding talks with the Soviets through the intermediary of the International Red Cross to exchange Mikhail Okrimyuk, a geology expert kidnapped in the capital, Kabul, for about 50 Afghans who are imprisoned in Kabul.

CSO: 4619/28

AYATOLLAH SADUQI INTERVIEWED ON ARAFAT, ISLAM

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 29, 30 Nov, 1 Dec 81

[Interview with Ayatollah Saduqi, Yazd Friday prayer leader, date and place not given]

[29 Nov 81 p 1]

[Text]

Last week we took the opportunity to interview one of the most prominent clerics of the Islamic Revolution the Yazd Friday Prayer leader and Imam's representative in Yazd province, Ayatollah Saduqi.

Undoubtedly, the views of such a man who has always been a strong support for the Islamic Revolution and the man who is absolutely trusted by the Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini and the Iranian clergy, will be useful and constructive to the world's Moslems.

It is hoped that we will have more opportunities to talk with such personalities whose names are often mentioned by the world's news media, those who in fact are the genuine creators, guardians and leaders of the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

-EDITOR

YAZD--"Yasser Arafat is an official servant and a genuine sympathizer of the U.S." said Yazd's Friday prayer leader and the Imam's representative in that region Ayatollah Saduqi in an exclusive interview with the TEHRAN TIMES last week.

The full text of the interview follows:

Q: "What is your idea in regard to the Fahd plan?"

A: "It is understandable that the U.S. supports it but we cannot understand the reason why a Palestinian leader and a revolutionary figure such as Yasser Arafat backs the plan."

Q: "How do you analyze this?"

A: "In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. As you know, this plan is devised hundred percent to safeguard the interests of the great Satan, the U.S. Israel also benefits from the plan since all these preliminary steps and the eight articles and the idea of establishing a government for the Palestinian Moslems are all aimed to stifle the nations in order to have Israel recognized and thus to approve all the crimes it has committed so far.

"The Issues of Israel will never be acceptable by any reasonable account since everybody considers Israel the usurper and aggressor.

The recognition of Israel will then imply the approval of the crimes it has committed against Moslem people such as destruction of their houses, the crimes it committed in the Mosque of Al-Aqsa, the massacre of 15,000 Moslems in one day during the occupation of the Islamic territories such as the Egyptian lands and its daily attacks on Lebanon.

"So the Fahd plan is only devised to preserve Israeli interests as well as those of the U.S. which is with Israel. In general, all the Superpowers who are against Islam will benefit from it. The dual objective of the plan is first, crushing of Islam and the Islamic Revolution and secondly, supporting the interests of Israel and the U.S.

"In regard to Mr. Yasser Arafat, I must say that at first we thought him to be a truthful man who aimed to purge Palestinians from the filth in Israel and that he was a total revolutionary. Gradually, it came to light that he was just another American lackey who was a liar in whatever he said. It is for a time - may be over a year - that I have understood it myself that he is not and has never been in the line of the Revolution.

"He is an official servant and a genuine U.S. sympathiser and America in turn supports him. If the U.S. would not support him, he would be finished by now. He has never committed anything against American interests. So his fame to being a revolutionary working for liberation of Palestine is baseless. His real face has been revealed more than once.

"His meetings with Saddam Hussein and his support for him are evidence of his total opposition towards Iran-

ians. His coming to Iran and his meetings with the Imam were all shows to deceive people. It is now certain that he is not with us and is an advocate of the U.S. His claims of taking efforts for freedom of Palestine is a lie. We will not believe in such a claim with proofs we have at hand.

Q: In his recent speeches, the Imam laid much stress on the issue of the clergy while it had been hoped that with the elimination of the anti-Islamic and anti-clergy elements, such as liberals, atheists and the hypocrites the problem would not have existed anymore? What then is the reason for the Imam's repeated emphasis on this issue at a time when the existence of such a problem was not apparent?

A: I do not agree that opposition as you say has come to an end. One cannot exactly count the number of adversaries and the enemies of the clergy and the great Leader of the Revolution.

Once I was listening to a Persian-speaking foreign radio and I was embarrassed to hear the obscene names they called the Imam. Such expression simply serve to indicate the depth of their hostility. So all the countries against our Revolution are certainly the adversaries of the clerics and beyond them all, of the Imam.

In connection with Islamic countries, the fact is that despite the support of nations for our revolution, majority of the Islamic governments, save a few, are against the clergy. Inside our country, all the splinter groups are also severe adversaries of the clergy and the Imam and if it were possible, they would not let him live for a single hour.

There are also those whose interests have been

badly affected by the revolution and they thus are hostile towards the clergy and the Imam.

The next group is the National Front which was supposed to be a genuine nationalist one. But it too proved to be very much against freedom established in our country since they wish to see Iran under the domination of the West or East. Besides, it was also proved that they, the Front members did not believe in Islam, since they aimed to hold demonstrations against the Qisas (Islamic code of punishment) bill when the Quran clearly affirms that the survival of man's community depends on the punishment of criminals.

In addition, to the Quranic decree, there are many traditions pertaining the Qisas according to one of which the punishment of one criminal is considered more valuable than 40 days of rain on a dried piece of land. Yet, the members of the National Front called it an illogical and anti-human bill and directly negated the decree of God.

So neither are they Moslems nor Iranian and must be considered apostates or infidels.

Another category among adversaries are formed of the agents of the ex-shah's notorious SAVAK. Also those who were affiliated to the shah's court are against the clergy and there are other political parties against the clergy as well.

So, what the Imam stated did not imply that there were no more adversaries opposed to the clerics. There are many elements against the clergy and one cannot count them all.

(To be Contd)

[Text] (Contd from previous issue)

Q: In this year's Hajj rituals, an African brother said that their concept of clergy was defined by the way in which they considered their own clergymen. He added that their clerics would only attend the mosques to pinpoint a few minor religious decrees while if one asked them where a government office was, they did not know! He said that it was not at all clear to them how an Iranian cleric could become a parliament deputy, or a minister.

A: Yes, it is so because there is a big difference between the Shi'ite clergy and that of Sunni. All clerics in the Islamic countries, except Iran, depend on their governments financially and have been paid by them. But fortunately, the Shi'ite clergy has never sought the help of the ruling regime.

The Shi'ite clerics have always lived independently and as politics takes priority along with Islamic principles and teachings, they always fulfilled their duty in this respect and it is an actual fact.

On the contrary, the Sunni clergy have always been pensioners of their governments. As servants, therefore, they could not oppose the regime.

It must be considered as one of the auspicious impacts of our revolution that some clergymen are now opposing their regimes here and there in Egypt and other Islamic countries.

So they are naturally surprised at seeing a clergyman becoming a minister, or a president only because they do not know the facts about the Shi'ite clergy. If they were to come here and learn about the insight, knowledge and commitment of the Shi'ite clergy, they would never be surprised.

They will be convinced when they see that the Shi'ite clergy have performed perfectly their duties in the two years that they undertook the responsibility of running the affairs in the nation. They

would then understand that nobody can run the affairs of the country better than a clergyman, namely a committed cleric following in the line of the Imam, not those who are so avariciously concerned with worldly affairs.

A clergyman who aims to live only to serve Imam and his country, can perform the duties assigned to him in the most unsurpassable manner. So what some Sunni people assert is only because they have almost always seen their Islamic Ulama following in the path of their regimes. If they happen to know more on Shi'ite clergy, they can see that from the early years of Islam until the present time, the clergy in Shi'ism have always opposed governments whenever they tread on the Islamic principles.

A number of Shi'ite clergy martyrs are named in a book called 'Great Martyrs' by Allamah Amini. All of them have been the clerics who fought against regimes whenever they tried to subvert Islam.

Mirza Shirazi was one of those who proved this to the world, by opposing the Shah of his time who had signed a humiliating contract with foreign powers. Mirza Shirazi made it clear to the world that the clergy would fight all such rulers in a manner that would disable them totally. We have always had great Ulama who opposed the regimes severely and recently - thanks be to God - the Imam of the Ummah proved that the power of the clergy is the strongest one and of course it should be like this as the clerics rely on God alone from whom their power originates.

In the course of our struggle, once a group came here who tried to convince me to stop our struggle. They demanded that it would be better for me to go to Imam and ask him to let the Shah stay on condition that all affairs concerning the Parliament, mini-

sters etc. be laid in the hands of the Imam. I told them that I would never do such a thing and that we would continue our struggle until ultimate victory was achieved. They asked me on what power we relied. And I said we depended on the same power on which Moses and Abraham relied while fighting Pharaoh and Nimrod, and the power on which the Holy Prophet depended to oppose all the Superpowers of his time since he was appointed by God as the Prophet to all peoples on earth.

Q: In regards to the foreign propaganda and the exportation of the revolution, Imam Khomeini recently said that he was very disappointed and grieved and he referred to the officials as 'cowards' saying that our foreign propaganda was 'nil'. It seemed that he was totally disappointed on the activities of the Iranian embassies. What is your guideline to the officials to this end?

A: I must first say that my guidelines can never match those of the Imam, and since he has protested on this issue, one must seek his own guidelines. But the Imam was displeased on the shortcomings

of the ministries responsible for the issue and was not totally disappointed.

In fact he aimed to motivate the people and the officials for a wide foreign propaganda and that even if it has not been started yet, they begin from now knowing that it will be effective as it has been inside the country.

"It is the duty of those who are involved in the issue of propaganda to take necessary steps in order to prove to the world that Iran's revolution is an Islamic and humanitarian revolution which is in full accordance with reason and the nature of man."

The Imam only meant to activate and motivate them to take as many efforts as possible in regards to the foreign propaganda issue. That was why the Imam said that such a sentence and - God willing -

the saying of the Imam will be effective to activate those involved in the matter for foreign propaganda and fulfill responsibilities in this respect.
(TO BE CONTINUED)

[1 Dec 81 p 1]

[Text]

(Contd from previous issue)

Q: Is there any message that you wish to send the Moslems of the world?

A: I do not know if my message is received by Moslems but I should say that the Moslems of the world excluding of Iran should not be disappointed. Do not stay in silence. Have Islamic uprisings. Have Islamic movements. Struggle against oppression. Struggle against the Superpowers which are opponents of Islam.

Do not become disappointed as long as you dedicate martyrs as we did. Any drop of the blood which is shed in the way of Islam will turn into a sea in which oppressors will be drowned.

Our advice to the countries of the world is that they should not submit to oppression and aggression. They should not be indifferent in regard to these affairs. Keep endeavoring and learn from Iran. As Iran struggled against all the Superpowers and embedded in Mohammad Reza (the former shah of Iran), who was nothing but a puppet and toppled the former regime, and rubbed the nose of the Superpowers to the ground so the Moslems of the world should create uprisings.

"Moslems should not knuckle under the oppression of their chiefs, presidents or kings. They should know that their leaders will be overthrown as a result of their multi-dimensional uprisings. With the help of the Almighty

Allah, they will witness the creation of Islamic Republics in their countries in the near future.

"But concerning our own country: I do not know what advice to give the Iranian nation as advice, because they have always fulfilled their responsibilities. Aside from counter-revolutionaries who have created obstacles in the way of Islam and the Revolution, as Imam Khomeini whom I met to discuss certain troubles in the Banisadr period said, "we have a revolutionary nation and with the help of Allah, all counter-revolutionaries will be removed by these people."

"We have not witnessed among our own revolutionary people anything but goodness and resistance for the perpetuation of the Revolution and their assistance in the war and to war-stricken people show them to be 100 per cent revolutionary. If we want to count the aid of this revolutionary people to the quake-stricken people it is immeasur-

able. As long as we knew this people, they never ignored their responsibilities. We pray to Allah for more success for these people and with the help of Allah, now we have a country in which there are no liquor stores or casinos or non-committed foreigners.

"We have expelled 60,000, to 70,000 Americans from this country and there is not a single American advisor in this country. At present there are no agents of the former SAVAK in government offices, or elsewhere hoping to grab jobs in other places through devious ways.

"I hereby warn the present Iranian government to be aware of the members of the Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO), the agents of the former SAVAK and those affiliated to the shah's court to keep them from penetrating government offices and organizations.

In the end I pray Allah to assist us as he did before to face any problems we may be confronted with through counter-revolutionaries."

CSO: 4600/151

UNEMPLOYMENT CONSIDERED 'ALARM BELL IN REVOLUTIONARY SOCIETY'

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 15 Nov 81 p 10

[Text] The Prime Ministry's Social Research Center, in order to gather information concerning "employment and unemployment," and the Statistics Group of the Health College of the University of Tehran, the national center which will be the government's basis for decision-making and planning in this field, took steps to prepare a plan with the research cooperation of the Voice and Profile of the Islamic Republic and the Employment Organization of the Labor Ministry. Following preparation of a preliminary plan and consultation concerning it, the conclusion was made that implementation of the plan, particularly from the viewpoint of obtaining a "model" sufficiently representative of "society," would face serious difficulties. In particular, the underlying statistics and information needed to choose a "model" mainly depended on the last census, meaning the census of 1355 [21 March 1976-20 April 77]. During five years, (particularly during the course of the revolution) the society made noticeable changes, the most important of which was the movement of the active forces.

The present report in the area of employment and unemployment in urban society has been prepared. The purpose of the report is to provide 'helpful information' concerning employment and unemployment, and to prepare a statistical framework for future studies concerning economic and social problems. Although the subject of "employment and unemployment" is in the main an issue concerning the society's entire active labor force, the head of the household has been selected as the plan's statistical individual since priority belongs to the employment status of the head of the household.

Percentage of Unemployed and Working Heads of Households

In this plan the head of the household is a person who, as the source of income, manages a household. The study of the urban society of Tehran of Bahman 1359 [21 January - 20 February 1981] shows that of all the household heads studied, 91.8 percent are economically active and the remaining 8.2 percent are inactive. The maximum percentage of those active belongs to Zanjan Province (97.3 percent), and the minimum belongs to Tehran Province (90.7 percent).

The unemployment rate among active heads of households is 6.8 percent in total. The maximum rate belongs to Kermanshahan Province (9.2 percent) and the minimum belongs to Semnan Province (2.7 percent). The rate is 7.5 percent in Tehran, plus

2.4 percent of hidden unemployed among active heads of households. The maximum amount of hidden unemployment belongs to Kermanshahan Province with 3.3 percent. The rate was 2.9 in Tehran itself.

Of all household heads studied, 30.2 percent are occupied in technical and service activities. The highest rate of employment in this area is in Khorasan, at 39.7 percent, and the lowest in Tehran Province, at 26 percent. The proportion of wage and salaried employees in the governmental sector is 23.5 percent in total. The maximum belongs to Kermanshahan Province (27.4 percent), and the minimum belongs to East Azarbaijan Province (19.7 percent). The rate belonging to Tehran Province is 24.1 percent. Those employed in middlemen activity equals 10 percent in total. The figure is 10.2 percent in Tehran; 12.6 in Mazandaran Province is the highest rate, and 6.7 percent in Semnan Province is the lowest figure.

Information relating to Tehran Province has been gathered from Tehran city, Karaj and Varamin. In Tehran Province men comprise 95 percent of the family heads, and of this 95 percent 90 percent are economically active. The level of unemployment (hidden and declared) is about 10 percent in this group.

This study was based on economic categorization of activity in the provinces. As age increases, the level of those employed in technical and service activities, wage and salaried employees in the governmental sector and employees of large private companies and concerns and nationalized industries declines. (The change is observed in the first group at age 54 and above, and in the second and third groups from the age of 44 onwards). From another point of view, the rate of those employed in middlemen activities and also the rate of retired people increases. Of course the increase in the rate of those retired is a natural matter. However, the rise in the rate of those employed in middlemen areas, which is accomplished at the cost of a decline in experienced and expert persons, and in general at the expense of those employed in useful economic sectors, is an alarm bell for the country's officials and planners. It is necessary that more accurate studies of the causes of this matter, its economic and social effects, and presentation of a way to prevent it take place.

For example, the type of activity of male household heads in Tehran (without considering age) is as follows: Those employed in technical and service areas (26 percent), wage and salaried employees in the governmental sector (24.1 percent), those employed in large private companies and concerns and nationalized industries (13.2 percent), and finally those in middlemen areas (10.2 percent). Furthermore, of all male household heads, 6.8 percent are unemployed and 2.6 percent are also hidden unemployed.

The level of retired persons in this society is 8.4 percent. Furthermore, those freely employed in unstated occupations (1.8 percent) and farmers (1.6 percent) must be included. Military and police forces (4.1 percent) must also be mentioned as an activity of male household heads.

A point to be emphasized about the abovementioned figures in addition to the rate of declared and hidden unemployment being high is the rate of those employed in the service sector in general, and in the middleman sector (10.2 percent) in particular. In reality the 1.8 percent of the freely employed in unstated occupations

must also be added to this figure, because even if we optimistically do not account this group of comfortable jobs as illegal occupations, they must be considered middleman occupations.

Unemployment in Women's Community

As we pointed out, the 95 percent of active household heads is composed of 90 percent male and 5 percent female household heads. Of this 5 percent, the majority are housekeepers, such that the distribution of the total (5 percent) is 66.3 percent homemakers, and 12.7 percent wage and salaried employees in the governmental sector. Women do not make up a noticeable proportion in other employment groups.

Furthermore, if we wish to mention female heads of households and their activities more accurately, we must say that of the 5 percent of female household heads living in Tehran, 7.7 percent of them are in technical and service activities, 3.6 percent in large private companies and concerns and nationalized industries, and 12.7 percent are wage and salaried employees in the governmental sector. Of these, 3.4 percent are unemployed, of which 0.4 percent are hidden unemployed, 4.4 percent are retired, and 0.2 percent are freely employed in unstated occupations; 0.8 percent are in middleman activities and 4 percent are students. As mentioned before, 66.3 percent of female household heads are homemakers.

Information obtained from 15 percent of the statistical community of women indicates that 28.9 percent are economically active. The rate of unemployment (including hidden unemployment) is 13.3 percent, which is a bit higher than the unemployment rate among the male community (10.4 percent). Female heads of households who are inactive are mainly homemakers, and the source of their income is probably their husbands' retirement income, pensions, rental of housing units, etc.

Furthermore, the volume of female heads of households who have immigrated to Tehran in recent years is not something about which statistics and analysis could be given. The motivation for most female immigrants is finding work.

Drop in Economic Activity Among Older Age Groups

Complete and comprehensive information, which cannot be summarized here, exists concerning male heads of households according to the size of household and activity status. From a total of 8,946 families with from one to 8 members that were considered, 8,115 of the heads of household are active, and 821 are inactive. Of the inactive heads of households, 750 were retired and 36 were students. At the same time, 8,115 active household heads means that 90.7 percent were active.

Of course this increase in occupation and reduction in unemployment continues until the age of 50 or thereabouts. From then on, the number of the active force declines and the inactive force decreases.

For example, of a total of 643 household heads in the 55-59 age group, 153 are inactive.

In summary it can be said of the total of household heads categorized according to age and activity status (active and inactive) that of household heads aged 20 to 65, numbering approximately 8,946, 8,115 were active and 831 inactive.

However, the figures for number of household members and economic activity status (active or inactive) shows that the percentage of active members does not change perceptibly among different families. As for unemployment, it is necessary to point out that the unemployment rate is high. As for household with 8 members, the unemployment rate is higher than that of smaller families. One and two-member households also have a higher unemployment rate compared to other households. The reason for this is that most of these households are youths who share in the active labor force but have not yet been absorbed by the labor market. As for households with 4 to 7 members, the unemployment rate fluctuates slightly, and displays no significant difference. As for the activities of various farming households, 2,327 households or 26 percent have technical and service occupations. 1,117 household heads or 13.2 percent are employed in private companies and firms and nationalized industries. 21 households or 0.2 percent are in revolutionary institutions. 2,157 household heads or 24.1 percent are government wage and salaried employees. 4.1 percent or 369 household heads are part of military and police forces. 607 household heads, or 6.8 percent, are unemployed. Hidden unemployment is 2.6 percent, or 234. 750 household heads or 8.4 percent are retired. Among them, 36 family heads or 4 percent are students, and 25 family heads or 3 percent are soldiers.

As for household heads categorized according to age and economic activity status (active and inactive), figures show that 90.7 percent of male household heads are economically active and 9.3 percent are inactive. The 90.7 percent breaks down into 80.3 percent who are working at the present time, and 10.4 percent who are unemployed (including hidden unemployment).

The percentage of the economically active declines in proportion as age advances, which is a natural matter. Thus of a total of 164 family heads less than 20 years old, the number of the active is 153: of them 137 are employed and 11 are inactive (students or others). As age rises above 20 years, the number of those employed increases, and the number of unemployed decreases. For example, of a total of 1,420 household heads between the ages of 25 to 26, 98.9 percent are active, and only 16 persons are inactive.

As can be observed, 90.7 percent of male household heads are economically active, and 9.3 percent are inactive. The 90.7 percent economically active breaks down into 80.3 percent presently employed, and 10.4 percent unemployed. As mentioned before, the rate of unemployment in youths that have newly entered the job market (below 25 years of age) and in relatively older ages (50 years and above) is very high. This figure is 12.2 percent in the first group and 18.1 percent in the second. Of course the existence of unemployment among youths, which is more noticeable, arises from the lack of a post-revolutionary employment law, or from youths not finding employment desired by them, and from the reduction of investment in the private sectors....

This census was taken at the time of the second distribution of grocery coupons during 21 January - 19 February 1981. The greatest possible effort was made to get a summary of the activity status of household heads in Tehran, the number of household members, the period of residence, etc.

9597

CSO: 4640/60

ARMY MAY INFLUENCE COUNTRY'S POLITICAL ORIENTATION

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 3 Dec 81 p 12

[Article by F. Manacas]

[Text] As a result of Khomeyni's Islamic dictatorship, the present situation in Iran might, on a long-term basis, favor a coup d'etat by the army. Because of the war against Iraq, the Iranian military oligarchy is attempting to present a different image than the one it had during the regime of Shah Reza Pahlavi. This is why it was partly responsible for precipitating the war with Iraq, turning it into a large-scale conflict, which was, in addition, decided by various motivations of the Islamic oligarchy in power.

Besides the leadership of the Arab world--which was Khomeyni's principal objective in engaging in war against Iraq--another internal factor was also at the basis of the charismatic leader's decision.

Indeed, following the victory of the "Islamic revolution," Khomeyni noted that the only power structure he did not control was the army. In spite of the fact that the principal military leaders who had collaborated with the shah's regime were in prison, the army continued to represent a disorganized power structure alongside the power exercised by Khomeyni and the ayatollahs surrounding him.

This situation might well endanger, on a short-term basis, the political leadership of Islamic fundamentalism over the state and society, considering that at a political level the army still represented the ideals advocated by the regime of Shah Reza Pahlavi.

Thus Khomeyni had an additional motive in deciding to launch the war against Iraq, since a large-scale conflict against this country might give him the opportunity for close control of the army in order to round out political power and strengthen his position of leadership in the new political situation now prevailing in Iran.

On the other hand, in the view of the military oligarchy, such a war "came at a good time" as a means to redeem itself for the past; it represented a plank of salvation, because a war against Iraq gave it the opportunity to demonstrate that it was in agreement with a new political situation in the country. Moreover, the military oligarchy was well aware that it could sustain a protracted war against Iraq: Its psychological and military preparation during the shah's regime was aimed at a possible large-scale war against the Iraqi Army.

Two years after the triumph of the "Islamic revolution," the Iranian army continues to be a parallel power structure alongside Khomeyni, despite the war against Iraq. This is indeed so because the reigning opinion within the military oligarchy is that "the war against Iraq represents the sole point of agreement between the army and the top Islamic leadership." This opinion practically reflects the present position of the military oligarchy on the present political situation in Iran.

In general, the military oligarchy is anti-Khomeyni, but this does not mean that it sympathizes with the Iranian parties of the left. In its view, the only point of dialogue is former president Abolhassan Bani-Sadr who understood--not because of political ties with the military oligarchy--that for Iran to conduct the war against Iraq required the release of the military strategists of the shah's regime who had been imprisoned.

This is why the war against Iraq is being conducted by the former military leaders of the shah's regime, who have not modified their political convictions and are waiting for the propitious moment to intervene in the country's political process.

The military oligarchy is aware that the war cannot go on forever. As a result, continuing the war against Iraq permits it not to intervene in the present situation of conflict between the Islamic power and the forces of the left, considering that such intervention would clearly define its political views, an attitude in which it is not interested at the moment. This explains why the Iranian military oligarchy maintains that the army can continue the war against Iraq, thus affording Khomeyni the opportunity to insist in his refusal to sign a cease-fire agreement.

As a matter of fact, it is this very situation that the military oligarchy is attempting to exploit, because it can avoid defining itself politically while the conflict lasts and Khomeyni is increasingly losing popular support on account of the Islamic dictatorship. And when the left and the people will attempt to intervene through an insurrection aimed at overthrowing Khomeyni, then the army will surely intervene at the last minute to support the winner and demand political compensation for such support. This political compensation will finally afford it the long-awaited opportunity to play an influential role in the country's future political orientation.

CSO: 4742/137

SOVIETS TOW PONTOON WITH POWER STATION TO RAMSAR

Baku VYSHKA in Russian No 253, 31 Oct 81 p 3

[Article by Engineer M. Mamedov of the Caspian Shipping Line]

[Text] Under the command of Capitan A. Filimonov, the crew of the icebreaker "Kapitan A. Radzhabov" has accomplished the transportation of a heavily loaded pontoon over a long distance for the first time in the history of the Caspian Shipping Line. The pontoon carrying electric power station equipment weighing 290 tons was towed from the Dutch port of Rotterdam to the port of the small Iranian city of Ramsar on the southern coast of the Caspian Sea. En route to its destination, the convoy crossed the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. The cargo was subsequently delivered via inland waterways to Baku, and from there to the coast of Iran. This route is more than 6,000 kilometers long. The entire distance was traveled in exactly one month.

CSO: 1829/80

WARTIME DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMY, OIL PRODUCTION REVIEWED

Muscat OMAN DAILY OBSERVER in English 15 Dec 81 p 4

[Text]

IRAQ is spending billions of dollars on economic development projects despite a costly war with Iran which has reduced the country's oil export revenue drastically and cut deeply into its foreign exchange reserves.

"Development is as serious as war," the Government's Industrial Planning Adviser, Sabah Kachachi, said.

He said the war between the two nations, Socialist-orientated Iraq and fundamentalist Iran, was "a clash of opinions between progress and backwardness, between looking forward and looking back."

But hinting at the financial burden for Iraq, Dr Kachachi said: "We hope that the war will not last too long. We cannot do miracles."

There are no signs of an early end to the 14-month war.

The war front is less than 100 miles (160 km) from Baghdad, the ancient capital city of 3.5 million people, home for one Iraqi in every four. But the prevailing atmosphere in Baghdad is one of business-as-usual, with the Government determined not to let the war interfere with its ambitious development programme.

"If fact, business is more thriving than ever," one diplomat said.

A record 72 countries and 3,200 foreign companies took part in Baghdad's annual trade fair in

October.

Contracts worth over \$15 billion were awarded during the first six months of this year, more than for the whole of 1980, according to diplomatic sources.

Dr Kachachi said agriculture and rural development were being given top priority because, he said, food one day will be an even more strategic commodity than oil today.

Baghdad, now preparing for next September's summit conference of the non-aligned movement, is a vast building site. "There are more cranes than palm trees," one Iraqi journalist joked.

Diplomats said industrial, infrastructure, and other development projects were being implemented throughout the country. The war is being fought mainly on Iranian territory.

"There is no other example of a Third World country expanding economically so fast while sustaining such a war effort," a Third World diplomat said.

Other diplomats estimate war expenditure in the first year of the conflict at \$11 billion and oil exports revenue during the same period at \$5 billion.

Diplomatic sources said Iraq's foreign exchange reserves at the end of September were estimated at between \$9 - \$14 billion, down from about \$35 billion a year earlier.

No official figures are available

as the Government has stopped publishing any economic data since the war started.

Iraq was the world's second largest oil exporter after Saudi Arabia when the war erupted in September, 1980, and exports came to a halt for several weeks.

Oil Minister Tayeh Abdul-Karim told reporters in Vienna recently that Iraq was currently exporting one million barrels of crude oil a day compared with up to 3.4 million barrels before the war.

Also in Vienna for an OPEC seminar, Iran's ambassador to Kuwait, Ali Shams Ardekani, told reporters that Iran was now exporting 900,000 barrels a day.

He said Iran and financial reserves of \$2 billion plus a further \$3 billion "locked up by the Americans."

Diplomats in Baghdad said loans from conservative Gulf oil-producing countries, all worried by the Islamic Revolution in Iran, had helped Iraq cushion the financial impact of the war and pursue its development efforts.

Kuwait has announced loans to Iraq totalling \$4 billion. Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar together pledged another \$10 billion in financial aid, according to the Kuwaiti daily "Al-Rai al-Aam."

Dr Kachachi said Iraq had many ways of financing its development programme despite the costly war. But he declined to elaborate.

"We minimised the damage," he said. "Even with the war, development must go on."

Diplomatic sources said Iraq faced no immediate financial difficulties. Iraq's credit worthiness was high, and diplomats said they gathered from visiting European bankers that the country would be able to borrow money on the Euro-dollar market if required.

Commenting on the record attendance at the Baghdad fair, the Government-controlled magazine "Iraq," said this was "indicative of international trust and confidence in Iraq's economic soundness and political stability."

Despite temporary shortages, due mainly to bureaucratic red tape, which often push up prices, Iraqis have not so far suffered financially from the war.

The government is encouraging the private sector and making every effort not to hurt consumers. Wheat, rice, tea and other basic commodities are subsidised, and diplomats said electrical and other expensive household goods were more readily available than before the war.

Dr Kachachi said domestic inflation was manageable but added that imported inflation had increased the cost of development projects.

Minimum daily wages raised this year about 40 per cent to two dinars (\$6), although Dr Kachachi said not many people in Iraq would work for so little money.

A kilo (2.2 pounds) of oranges at the local market cost 75 US cents, locally-manufactured cigarettes 33 cents a packet of 20,

and a seat at the cinema 45 cents.

Top grade petrol costs 12 cents a litre, unchanged since the war.

There are heavy traffic jams in Baghdad despite a 300 per cent import duty on new cars. Generally shops are well stocked and back-street, as well as smart, restaurants are often full.

Because of a deliberate policy to diversify supplies, many countries benefit from Iraq's spending spree.

"Oil may be there for five or six decades," Dr Kachachi said.

The best investment we can make is to spend it (the oil revenue) as soon as possible on development projects."

Weapons for the 250,000-strong, army come mainly from Eastern Europe. Western diplomats said Iraq was forced to make expensive purchases on the international arms market in the first stages of the war when deliveries from Moscow were not forthcoming.

But civilian contractors and experts are mainly from Western Europe, Japan and smaller countries like Finland.

Discussing manpower problems, Dr Kachachi said Iraq had an open-door policy towards Arab labour, in line with the Pan-Arab outlook of the ruling Baath (Resurrection) Party. But workers from Asia brought in by contractors number tens of thousands.

Industry and Minerals Minister Taher Tawfik was quoted as saying in a recent interview: "I can safely say that the impact of the war has turned most positive and favourable."

PLO FOSTERS DEVELOPMENT IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Sep 81 p 11

[Article by Yosef Tsurriel: "Foreign Funds Continue to Flow Into the Territories"]

[Text] If security officials ever thought that they would be able to control the flow of PLO money and supporters to the Occupied Territories, they have already learned that it is an impossible task.

Half a year has passed since orders were issued to prevent money from PLO sources from entering the Territories. However, mayors and public figures appear unconcerned.

They believe that it is in all ways to Israel's advantage when there is enough money in the hands of Arab authorities. If the Military Government is unable to provide what they consider essential, then it should be possible to bring in money from the outside.

Three Uses for the Money

Three current problems require financial solutions. First, funding for development plans in large cities and towns; second, development of existing departments in the region's four universities and establishment of new departments desired by and defined as essential to residents of the area; third, assistance to young couples for building dwellings in cities and villages.

Security officials have met with limited success in coping with the first problem. For some time, they claim, local civic authorities have been guaranteed essentials. As for control, the business ledgers of city administrations have been opened to the military government. Irregularities could not be easily disguised.

As regards education, viewed by residents of the Territories as their main challenge, this is not the case. Here, there are many loopholes and it is by no means certain that Israeli security officials are in firm control.

The four universities are in the West Bank. All are at different stages of development. As in Israel, each institution has its board of governors, groups of supporters outside the area, and contributors.

PLO Support Too

It is no longer a secret that the well known American [sic] organization [UNRWA], which derives its entire budget from government sources, has allotted \$3/4 million to Bir Zayt University. The Vatican is assisting Bethlehem University. The governments of Iraq and Libya both aid al-Najah University in Nablus. The Jordanian Government has a special relationship with the Islamic College in Hebron.

Given all four institutions' intensive development, their administrations are prepared to accept financial aid from anyone, including the PLO. If the PLO is interested in contributing large sums of money to higher education in the Occupied Territories, it will find a way to transfer the funds.

In reality, there are plenty of foreign groups which are hostile to Israel, and are prepared, for ideological reasons, to act as go-betweens for Arab groups and individuals. In the U.S. and Western Europe "Friendship Groups" with activist members of Palestinian origin are being formed, through which aid to the universities can be channelled. This cannot be prevented.

Jewish settlement throughout Judea and Samaria poses a challenge to urban and rural Arabs of the region: to remain in the region and to continue expanding on unsettled land, primarily on the fringes of existing settlements. Jordanian officials have already expressed their support of this and even attempted to capitalize on it politically. In various ways they have offered and granted financial support, especially to villagers who prove that they are building houses in the region.

Most Assistance is for Construction

But the main task is being underwritten by the PLO. Unlike the situation in Israel, construction in the West Bank is private. The Israeli administration is neither interested nor able to examine the wallets of Arabs building houses for themselves or their sons. Even if audits were undertaken, there would always be satisfactory excuses.

"This is a problem," contends a high ranking security official, who adds, "but we have to try to deal with it somehow."

The method being implemented will limit complete audits to the public sector. Orders will be issued, regulations will be sent to officials and treasurers will receive guidance.

But only time will tell if all this effort is worth-while.

8770

CSO: 4423/22

DISCORD AMONG ARAB MAYORS DISCUSSED

Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Sep 81 p 8

[Article by 'A'idah Jabir: "Discord Among Arab Civil Authorities"]

[Text] Disagreements which erupted during recent weeks between the National Committee of Arab Local Authorities and groups of leaders of 10 Arab local councils have, in effect, divided the leadership of the Authorities in the Arab sector into two camps. One camp supports the RAKAH line on the severe problems faced by the Arab population in Israel. The second camp, though also aware of these problems, does not agree on the course of action taken by the National Committee, which has a majority of RAKAH members and supporters belonging to the Democratic Fund for Peace and Equality who believe that only a fierce struggle against the government will bring about the solution of the domestic problems of Israeli Arabs.

By way of example, members of the Democratic Front supported the latest decision of the National Committee to declare a strike as a possible weapon against the government if it does not solve the fiscal crunch in which the local councils find themselves. Moreover, members of the Democratic Front also backed the famous decision of the National Committee condemning the attempts on the lives of mayors in Judea and Samaria, and calling for the establishment of a Palestinian state west of the Jordan River next to Israel. This group is led by Nazarety Mayor and Knesset Member [Tawfiq Ziyad].

Leaders of the council identifying with the opposition oppose use of threatened strike in the struggle to solve the problems of Arab municipalities. They believe that there are other no less effective means available for solving the problem and stand for the principle of negotiation. They believe that anything can be achieved through negotiation and that the National Committee of Arab Local Councils must not be exploited for political gains. The opinions of this group were not clearly expressed until the protest meeting held several days ago in Akko with the participation of 10 Arab local council chairmen. They made it unequivocally clear that they oppose the manner in which the National Committee is dealing with the problems of Arab regional councils. They requested to air their protest before the chairman of the committee, Mr Ibrahim Nimr Husayn, mayor of the Shefar'am Municipality, who is recognized as a moderate and who does not identify with Rakah or the Democratic Front.

Participants in the Akko protest meeting were the council heads of Sha'ab, Furaydis, Abu Sinan, Fassuta, Rama, al-Makr, Judayda, Jish, Basmat Tab'un, and Majd al-Kurum. These council leaders met with the committee chairman. At the end of the meeting Sha'ab Council Chairman [Efo Pagor] said that the council leaders informed the chairman of their opposition to the committee's handling of the matter and requested that he work to solve the Arab local councils' problems through negotiations, without loud slogans and without personal attacks on certain council leaders because of their opposition to RAKAH's Democratic Front.

The chairman of the Sha'b Council added that at the last general conference of leaders of Arab local authorities, held in Nazareth, several council chairmen were personally insulted by supporters of hard-line solutions to problems faced by the councils.

At this conference the mayor of Nazareth, Knesset Member [Tawfiq Ziyad] proposed the organization of several joint protests by the Arab population including strikes and demonstrations.

Ms Violet Khouri, former head of the Kafr Yasif Council, stood on the rostrum at this conference in rebuttal of [Tawfiq Ziyad]'s proposal. During her speech one of [Ziyad]'s supporters stood and requested that she be silent immediately. A similar episode occurred, involving the chairman of the Rama Local Council, who was crudely and insultingly requested to support the protest.

Muhammad [Zaydan], spokesman of the National Committee of Local Authorities, who was a candidate on the Democratic Front's list for the Tenth Knesset, rejects claims made by moderate council leaders. He stated that all the decisions reached at the National Committee level are democratic ones, supported by a majority. No pressure is brought to bear on members to support one position or another.

"We're not dealing with politics. The purpose of the National Committee is far above political principles. We are striving to solve local problems of Israeli Arabs, and it was for this purpose that the committee's 15 members were democratically elected," Muhammad [Zaydan] stated.

Binyamin Gur-Aryeh, the prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs, voices an appeal against the very existence of the National Committee. "The existence of a separate committee for Arabs creates an unfavorable atmosphere of "you" and "us." Who does it help? According to Gur-Aryeh, the last meeting of the 10 council heads who oppose the National Committee's mode of operation proves that:

1. The Committee does not represent all the Arab local councils.
2. There are councils which do not wish special representation for Arabs and are satisfied with their representation in the [Center for Local Government].
3. The National Committee has become a force for dealing with matters beyond its control and has put political paragraphs into the committee's proposed code. It is hard to understand why a committee with a primary municipal function should deal with the Palestinian problem.

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CSO: 4423/22

GULF ARABS SEEK MEDICAL TREATMENT IN ISRAEL

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Sep 81 p 16

[Article by Ezra Yanuv: "Ashkelon Doctors Straighten Saudi Backs"]

[Text] In August alone the orthopedic department at the [Barzilai] government hospital in Ashkelon repaired hip joint defects of nine Arab residents of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

The news that the Ashkelon hospital puts bent and crippled residents of Arab countries back on their feet is reaching these countries via the Gaza Strip.

"It's spreading like wildfire," says a doctor of the orthopedic department, pointing to a girl from Saudi Arabia who arrived with her mother across the Jordan bridges to the Gaza Strip to undergo corrective hip joint surgery.

Dr Zvi [Harold], director of the department, and his assistant, Dr Gad Shmueli, worked for many hours in order to correct the girl's leg in four places. The hip-bone was shortened, a new joint was created, and the hip, which was dislocated at birth, was returned to its proper place.

The girl, [Abir al-Sigal], will be released from the hospital in another week with explicit instructions from the two Israeli doctors to walk every day until the leg is restored to its normal function.

Complicated Cases

Each day of hospitalization costs foreign residents about \$200.

Since the Six-Day War the orthopedic department in Ashkelon has operated on over 500 residents of Judea, Samaria and Arab countries.

"They come in on all four and leave on two," the doctors and patients at Ashkelon say. I remember a baker from [Talat] Street in Gaza, who I first saw at the end of the Six-Day War. This man, whose name is Zakariah, would crawl home from his small bakery to his wife and children. One day a relative approached the Israeli military governor requesting to repair his crooked spinal column.

This was one of the first operations performed by Dr [Harold]'s orthopedic department. The Gaza resident, who spoke only Arabic, was brought to the ward. During lengthy surgery, bones were cut, shortened and straightened. One month later, the man left walking, for the first time in his life.

This was the first sign of a new trend. Scores of individuals with war injuries, birth defects and birth-induced deformities, injuries which damaged and crippled, began to reach the Ashkelon hospital. The techniques were already known and were enhanced and improved with each successive case. Complete success resulted.

Of late, word of this success has reached Gulf Arabs, particularly in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Abu Dhabi, via relatives in Gaza.

Dr [Harold] received the first letter from a Saudi, a doctor in Riyadh, this year, directly referring a patient for treatment of a hip problem.

"They used to hide our address," the director said. "The patients would take the letters with our doctors' names, but the address of the hospital always said London. They were afraid of people finding out that they were coming to Israel for treatment. Now they are coming for artificial hip joints. Here is one of these patients, who would prefer not to be photographed for obvious reasons. He underwent hip joint surgery in Ashkelon over a year ago, was given an artificial joint and returned to Jiddah. Following treatment there and a complication, the Saudi doctor referred him to Dr [Harold] to complete the medical treatment. When the treatment was completed, the patient requested a letter to his Saudi doctor. The Israeli doctor was perplexed: "My letterhead is in Hebrew and carries the address of the hospital in Ashkelon." The patient replied, "In Saudi Arabia everyone knows where they put Saudis like me back on their feet."

"We never had as many cases as this summer," Dr [Harold] stated. "This year complicated cases have arrived, primarily problems with hip joints in the groin. We are also treating birth induced hip dislocations." I asked what this meant and was told that if the hip is not in its socket, the problem may not be discovered for several years. This results in deformation of the bones, which develop separately. Corrective surgery enables them to develop properly.

Two-Hundred Dollars

Are these operations paid for by the patients, I asked.

It was difficult for them to give me an answer.

Of course, a government hospital provides complete hospitalization to members of Israeli sick funds. There is a different price schedule for Israeli residents who do not belong to a sick fund. The fee is about IS1,450 per day at the present time. A foreign resident must pay IS2,250 per day. It seems that this amount covers all hospitalization expenses and partially covers depreciation and replacement of supplies and equipment. However, we are certainly not making a profit. Payment of patients from the Territories and Arab countries goes directly to the Ministry of Health, which funds the hospital. There is no "bonus" for the hospital, the department or the doctor carrying out these expensive operations. So, aside from increas-

ing the surgeons' knowledge and offering a sense of pride in a job well done, the operations are not an economic drain on hospital resources.

It is no small matter putting a man back on his feet, even if he happens to be the son of an oil shayk.

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CSO: 4423/22

EXPORTS INCREASE IN 1981

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Sep 81 p 5

[Article: "Comparison of January/August 1981 and Previous Year's Exports Released"]

[Text] Net exports in August this year totaled \$368 million in current prices, including \$15 million in agricultural exports and \$353 million in industrial exports.

Exports in August last year totaled \$297 million.

Export Values

The value of exports, excluding diamonds, ships and aircraft and adjusted for seasonal influences, was 18 percent higher in August, 1981 than in July this year. This was reported by the Central Bureau of Statistics and the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, based on provisional information. These figures do not include exports from Israel to the Occupied Territories.

Eight-Month Summary

During the first 8 months of this year net exports of goods totaled \$3,473 million, compared to \$3,431 million during the same period last year. The value of exports was effected by the drop in polished diamond exports, which declined by 19 percent during these 8 months over the same period last year. Agricultural exports (excluding citrus) declined by 5 percent during the period from January through August this year. However, certain increases, 10 percent in industrial exports (excluding diamonds) and 11 percent in citrus fruit, were recorded.

Discounting Seasonal Influences

Figures adjusted for seasonal influences show that during the first 8 months of this year the level of exports (excluding ships, aircraft and diamonds) increased by 9 percent over the monthly average during the second half of 1980. This occurred despite indications of marked stability during the first quarter of this year and a slight drop in exports during the second quarter.

Industrial exports (excluding diamonds) totaled \$2,285 million during the first 8 months of this year, up from \$2,076 million during the same period last year.

This 10 percent increase reflects increases in exports in most industries, including metal and electronics (35 percent), mining and non-metallic mineral production (20 percent), wood, paper and printing (19 percent), and food (13 percent).

Textiles, clothing and related industries experienced a 21 percent drop, while chemicals, rubber and plastics registered an 8 percent decline.

Level of Industrial Exports

The average monthly level of industrial exports, excluding diamonds and adjusted for seasonal influences, was, during the first 8 months of the year, 8 percent higher than the monthly average for the first half of 1980.

Net exports of polished diamonds during January-August this year totaled \$736 million, 19 percent below the same period last year. Figures adjusted for seasonal change show that, compared to the second half of 1980, a 21 percent drop in average monthly exports was experienced during the first 8 months of this year.

Agricultural exports (including citrus fruits) totaled \$436 million for the first 8 months of 1981, as compared to \$426 million during the same period last year, an increase of 2 percent. Citrus exports totaled \$216 million, up 11 percent. Other agricultural exports fell 5 percent from \$232 million in January-August 1980.

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CSO: 4423/16

SHIFT TO HIGH-TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES URGED

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Sep 81 p 11

[Article by Haim Sadan: "The Future: Investment"]

[Text] Though the problem of investment is Israel's most serious, it is discussed less than any economic or other problem. Other more familiar and hackneyed problems such as inflation, national debt and the balance of payments are dwarfed by the problem of investments. Only a change in the country's present investment policy can cure the rest of its economic ills.

Today's system of approving investments is geared to the level of understanding of administrators. As a result, the country's industrial infrastructure is conventional to a dangerous degree. The inherent dangers are that this infrastructure does not offer the country a competitive edge and that Israel's potential will always be limited. This infrastructure includes, for example, glass, textile, automotive and related industries which are electro-mechanical, energy intensive and dependent upon mass production, unskilled labor, monotonous tasks and central control.

In progressive economies such industries are being replaced today by a new technology outlined below. The old technology is being passed on to economically less developed countries such as China, Singapore, the Philippines, etc. It is cheaper to import products of mass production and cheap labor than to produce them ourselves.

The modern technology in which we must invest our efforts and which offers us a competitive advantage did not exist 25 years ago. Yet it alone accounts for the growth of productivity and economic prosperity of the developed nations.

Foundations of the New Technology

This new technology is based upon quantum electronics, information theory, molecular biology, marine sciences, nucleonics and space sciences. The young electronic industry, for example, enjoys total sales in excess of \$100 billion around the world. By the end of the present decade this amount will have doubled many times, making this industry the fourth largest in the world. Japan has monopolized several narrow fields of the electronic industry. Today, the Japanese control 90 percent of the world's video cassette player production. Last year they produced 4 million units, which brought them profits of \$2.7 billion, an amount exceeding all of Israel's agricultural and industrial exports plus tourism in 1979. Japanese production in

this field alone will double this year. The U.S. is in control of mini-computers and word processors. These devices are destined to soon be a part of every home and office, like the television and typewriter today. They will be found in banks, stores, schools and workplaces. They have the potential to completely change society and the business world.

There are numerous fields in which Israel could create a prominent position for itself, for example, soil and weather sciences for agriculture, medical diagnostic devices incorporated into articles of clothing or intermediate products such as optical fibers which will be used in communications fields, replacing copper wire. Manufacture of optical fibers requires only one-thousandth of the energy required to create copper wire. The same ton of coal required to produce 150 km of copper wire could produce 130,000 km of optical fiber.

Marine technology promises to open the oceans to modern industrial exploitation, including farming fish in a manner similar to chickens, sea plant harvesting for food and drug production, and mining of the enormous ore deposits on the sea-bed. A known scientist estimates that the Red Sea bed alone contains deposits of zinc, silver, lead and gold worth over \$3 billion. First, the manganese deposits on the sea-bed would be mined. Four giant companies, U.S. Steel, Lockheed, [Kenikot] and [Inco] (Canada), are waiting for the signing of an International Law of the Sea Treaty before they invest \$1 billion each in marine engineering.

Biological technology will soon end the need for oil in producing plastics, fertilizers, paints and insecticides. Genetic engineering will bring new strains of high-yield and disease resistant crops and completely new types of food and fibers.

Innovation and Individual Production

Unlike the old technology, the new technology need not be cumbersome, costly or complicated. Innovation and individual production will take the place of mass production. Emphasis will be placed upon Israel's advantage over most countries: its intellectual resources. New alloys, new drugs, new types of energy, all demand research, so that research will replace yesterday's machines as a source of wealth. We're not talking about a forecast for the future, but a description of what is already happening.

If we don't adjust quickly to the changes taking place by switching our investment policy to one which attracts foreign investors (who, besides capital, bring administrative and marketing techniques necessary for success) we will miss a rare opportunity. For, as regards talent found in Israel and among Jewish communities the world over, we compare favorably with the technological skills of the most advanced countries. This gives us a competitive advantage.

The Jews in Israel and the Diaspora are blessed with many highly skilled scientists and technologists. In Israel, the Soviet Union and the U.S., Jews are the ethnic group with the longest tradition of educational training. In Israel today, the Jewish student is, on the average, educated twice as long as his European counterpart. Israel's current investment policy ignores the value of this trained manpower and thus encourages Jewish emigration and creates obstacles to immigration. Today in the Ministry of Labor, there are stacks of files on Jewish professionals abroad who wish to immigrate to Israel, but lack employment opportunities here.

Killer Bureaucracy

One of the obstacles to proposals to establish the new technology in Israel is the way in which private initiative is handled here. Each foreign initiative and every investment made by an Israeli requiring land for constructing a plant, involve the investor in a lengthy, expensive and wasteful process whose creators were clearly interested in frightening off potential investors, certainly not in attracting them. The process includes obtaining permits from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Investment Center, the Corporation for Industrial Development (to receive a subsidized loan), the Ministry of the Interior, the Israel Lands Authority, and the local committee for urban planning and development. Signatures must be obtained from the Histadrut, the Ministry of Health, Civil Defense and the Ministry of Labor and Welfare. A veto by any government body or clerk at any point in the process will bring the entire matter to a halt. Every government body has the right to give its authorization within the period of time it deems appropriate, generally from one to three months, but frequently dragging on up to half a year. It is possible for countless years to pass before building can start. As a result, foreign investment in Israel is nonexistent and Israelis themselves invest abroad.

Time is of crucial significance today because progressive new technology develops so quickly. Research plays a central role in developing new products and processes. The entire process of acquiring permits must be abolished. An infrastructure which includes water, bomb shelter, electricity and sewage must be prepared in advance, ready for the investors when they arrive.

Where has the capital for investment in Israel disappeared? Nearly half of the capital invested in Israel today is spent on buildings. An additional 18 percent is in commerce while another 16 percent include purchase of raw materials and factory equipment. Of the amounts invested in productive installations, as already noted above, most are invested in conventional plants producing products known to us thanks to the technology of the past 50 years.

This investment policy requires the employment of simple laborers, primarily. There is a shortage of unskilled labor in Israel. Because of this, many foreign workers are brought in, about 80,000 in all, mostly Arabs from the Territories. These are the main beneficiaries of current Israeli investment policy. The tendency of the Arabs towards out-migration has stabilized due to Israeli demand for unskilled labor.

The new investment plan, oriented towards development of advanced technology, will curb the emigration of Jews and will draw thousands to Israel who will be attracted by the challenges and the benefits. It is a pity that our development is being held in check at this critical point in the development of world economies. We could also become one of the pioneers and progressive forces if we don't sell our birth-right for a mess of pottage.

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CSO: 4423/16

BRIEFS

SHIFT IN CONSUMPTION PATTERNS--The policy of reducing taxes and subsidies on food products resulted in considerable change in Israeli patterns of consumption during 1980-81. This period was characterized by increased purchase of durable goods and a clear preference for subsidized products. These are among the findings of a survey conducted by the SHEKEM company, based on sales at 39 branch stores. During the past year there was an increase in sales of durable goods, primarily color televisions, audio equipment, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners, furniture and household appliances. Television and stereo sales were up 106.3 percent, refrigerator and washing machine sales increased by 36 percent, and household appliance sales were up 26.7 percent. The SHEKEM survey also compared the level of food sales in the store's branches during the past year. The findings show, in particular, a considerable increase in sales of milk, dairy products, frozen fowl, meats, and eggs, all of which are government subsidized. The greatest increases were in milk sales, up 18.3 percent, frozen fowl, up 9.5 percent and frozen meats, up 7.4 percent. Fruit and vegetable sales were also up, 13 percent, due to bumper fruit and vegetable harvests which resulted in considerable mark-downs in price. On the other hand, sales of clothing, shoes and personal effects dropped by 4.3 percent. Clothing and shoe prices increased more during this period than other Israeli consumer goods. [Text] [Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 21 Sep 81 p 2] 8770

EGYPT-ISRAEL POLICE COOPERATION--The Israeli and Egyptian Ministries of the Interior have reached agreement in principle on cooperation between the police of both countries. The agreement was reached in Egypt during talks between an Israeli delegation headed by Ya'akov Markovitz, head of the Police Bureau of the Ministry of the Interior and an Egyptian delegation headed by General Salah Ibrahim, assistant to the minister of the interior for police affairs. The delegations agreed on cooperation in all matters relating to the war on narcotics as well as joint action for locating cars stolen from Israel and smuggled to Sinai and Egypt. The delegations also agreed on permanent and direct links between Interpol units in both countries to aid in fighting crime and exchange of information on criminals in both countries. The delegations held their meetings in the hope of promoting cooperation and mutual understanding. A memorandum on the agreement reached will be signed at the next meeting of the delegations, which will take place in Israeli this November. [Text] [Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 28 Sep 81 p 1] 8770

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION--At the end of 1980 there were eight cities in Israel with populations in excess of 100,000 and three with populations exceeding 90,000. The largest city in Israel was Jerusalem, with 407,000 residents, followed by Tel Aviv-

Jaffa with 335,000 and Haifa, with a population of 230,000. Other cities with over 100,000 people were Bat Yan (132,000), Holon (131,000), Ramat Gan (120,000), Petah Tiqva (120,000) and Beersheba (110,000). Cities with populations nearing 100,000 were Netanya (98,000), Rishon le-Tsiyon (92,000) and Bnei Beraq (91,000). These figures were reported by the spokesman of the Central Bureau of Statistics. Tel Aviv is the largest Jewish settlement with 326,000 Jews, followed by Jerusalem with 292,000 Jews. Since the census conducted in 1972, Jerusalem's population grew approximately 30 percent, while Tel Aviv-Jaffa's decreased by 8 percent. In the metropolitan area of greater Tel Aviv-Jaffa (stretching from Rishon le-Tsiyon in the south to Ra'anana in the north), the population grew from 1.1 million in 1972 to 1.3 million at the end of 1980, an increase of 17 percent. Haifa's population increased 5 percent during this period. [Text] [Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 25 Sep 81 p 7] 8770

ARAB STUDENT STATISTICS--Emanuel Kopelevitz, director of the Department for Arab Education and Culture of the Ministry of Education and Culture said yesterday that the shortage of classrooms in government schools in the Arab sector will be solved within 5 years, based on the present rate of construction. Mr Kopelevitz was participating in the dedication ceremony of two schools at Kafr Manda in the Netofa Valley. He stated that Arab schools are short 1,000 classrooms. In the present framework, 300 classrooms will be completed within a year and 350 additional classrooms in various stages of construction will be completed in 2-3 years. The planning department of the Ministry of Education has completed plans for 400 additional classrooms, of which 80 are already budgeted. Building contracts will be signed when funds are allocated. Mr Kopelevitz said that the Ministry of Education and Culture learned this year that forecast numbers of children in Arab schools will not be realized. A decline in the natural increase of the Arab population has apparently started. Instead of approximately 130 additional classrooms required during each of the past five years, only 60 classrooms were needed during the current academic year. In addition, the Ministry of Education redistributed students in several large villages and realized a savings of 50 more classrooms. The head of the Kafr Manda Regional Council thanked Ministry of Education and Culture officials for the solution to the classroom shortage in his village. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Sep 81 p 5] 8770

CSO: 4423/22

HADDAD INTERVIEWED ON FAHD PLAN, SYRIAN PRESENCE

Amsterdam ELSEVIERS MAGAZINE No 46, 14 Nov 81 pp 51, 53

[Interview with Major Sa'ad Haddad, commander of the Christian Militia in South Lebanon, by B. Stoops: "Fahd Plan Leads to Communism and Terrorism on the West Bank"; date of interview not specified]

[Text] Major Sa'ad Haddad, commander of the Christian militia in South Lebanon, scared the Israeli Government last week with the announcement that he would resign "due to tiredness." This surprising announcement, which would have important strategic consequences for Israel (since Haddad's troops form a buffer between UNIFIL [United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon] areas infiltrated by the PLO and Israel) was recanted by the major a few days later. Thus he will remain Israel's ally in South Lebanon. But for how long? ELSEVIER talked with Major Haddad. There was no sign of tiredness, but rather -- reading between the lines -- of a somewhat cantankerous aloofness from Israel's policy.

The conversation with Major Sa'ad Haddad takes place in Metulla, near the border of Israel and South Lebanon. An Israeli paper just reported that Haddad had made a bargain with the PLO, the United Nations and the government in Beirut. He doesn't find it necessary to pay much attention to that report.

His plan for a settlement of the Lebanese problem in any event looks quite different from what leaked out from the UNIFIL headquarters about Haddad's integration in the Lebanese armed forces. "In the area controlled by me and my soldiers, which we have proclaimed Free Lebanon, we have already given the example for the entire country. For what do you see here?"

He unfolds a large survey map on the floor and points with a ruler to the narrow strip between UNIFIL territory and the Israeli border. "100,000 Lebanese of all religious denominations live here: 60 percent Shiite Muslims, 35 percent Christians and 5 percent Druze. They live in peace with each other, united, without fanaticism. That is possible for all of Lebanon if one starts from the premise that Lebanon belongs to the Lebanese. In our entire country there are people, including and primarily Muslims, who no longer want to live under Syrian and PLO occupation. Most of all, they would like to join us, but unfortunately they can't do that, even though many Lebanese from Central and North Lebanon have come to Free Lebanon lately.

Major Haddad, in a green uniform (supplied by Israel) without stars or stripes, speaks calmly, thoughtfully.

[Question] How do you plan to end the influence of Syria and the PLO in Lebanon?

[Answer] "In the first place, by giving us, the Lebanese, even more aid in the future: political, moral, all means. Giving more authorities to UNIFIL does not help us because the UN troops are primarily engaged in looking after their own safety. According to my plan, first the Syrian troops and the PLO must leave Lebanon. That can be achieved if the United States, as a start, exerts pressure on Saudi Arabia to no longer support the PLO financially. The PLO would then have great difficulties here. The problem of Lebanon is not a problem between the Lebanese themselves, but between them and foreign occupiers. If the United States additionally could make other Arab states understand that they must open their doors to Palestinians who now live in Lebanon, we will have made great progress. There is plenty of room for them in the Arab countries."

[Question] Will Syria leave Lebanon without a blow?

[Answer] "Yes, I am sure of that. Syria does not want to annex Lebanon."

[Question] Doesn't the open military and other Israeli aid mark Haddad as a permanent instrument of the Israelis?

[Answer] "A counter question: if I should not accept that support, then would I be celebrated here as a national hero? In order to protect my country against foreign domination, I accept financial, military and other aid from everyone. You may quote that literally. I will go even further: most Lebanese politicians think the same way I do. Only they are afraid to say it aloud, for fear of being murdered."

[Question] What do you think of the Saudi-Arab plan for a Palestinian state on the West Bank and the Gaza strip?

[Answer] "That is not my affair. I do know, however, that such a state would be the officially recognized, internationally operating base of communism and terrorism. That role is now being played by Lebanon. All terrorist groups which are sowing death and destruction in the world -- the RAF [Red Army Faction] in the FRG, the Red Brigades in Italy, and so forth -- had their training with the PLO in Lebanon. An end will come to that when Lebanon is rid of its occupiers. Egypt and the Saudis can cooperate in that. If Egypt, together with Lebanon and Israel, should start to form the kernel of a peace-loving community of nations in this part of the Middle East, the other Arab countries have no other option but to follow this example."

[Question] Do you see yourself as the charismatic leader who wants to lead his people both in times of war and peace?

[Answer] "I see myself only as a soldier, as a military commander. As soon as Lebanon is master in its own house again, I will return to Marj 'Uyun, the village where I was born and where my family lives. I believe that time will come. Of course, the history of the world knows examples of peoples and nations who have

justice on their side but who nevertheless lost their identity, the Kurds for example. But our problem is different. We had a free country. We want to get back something we already had but lost: a country which, as the bible states, is a holy country, a temple of God and a blessed country. We don't want to be governed by the devil. We have proclaimed Free Lebanon to show the world that we are free and that the rest of our country is occupied."

In spite of the bitterness noticeable in Major Haddad on the role of some UNIFIL units (including the Dutch one) and the implied reservation against some aspects of the Israeli policy (which according to him is "not firm enough with respect to support of South Lebanon"), it seems unavoidable that he will remain in his lonely post. His village, his family and his health will have to wait a little longer before he can give them priority.

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CS0: 3105/49

AL-QADHDHAFI: POPULAR CONGRESSES ESSENTIAL

Tripoli AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR in Arabic 2 Nov 81 p 1

[Editorial: "With the Leader of the Revolution: The Power Belongs to the People"]

[Text] The first revolutionary legal proclamation says: "Power belongs to the people, and they exercise it by means of popular congresses." Contempt for the fundamental and vocational people's congresses is considered a threat to the power of the people. Therefore it is necessary to understand this proclamation. Perhaps there is a revolutionary committee which has not understood the nature of the international movement of revolutionary committees and is influenced by traditional revolutions and political movements existing in the world, which work to wrest the power from the hand of the masses in the name of the masses. This committee may fall into error, and when it withdraws from the movement of revolutionary committees, it is considered a party cell, and it becomes our duty to attack it and uproot it from the revolutionary movement because it constitutes a danger to the power of the people.

Any revolutionary committee which slips in this way and has contempt for the people's congress and believes that it holds the power becomes in this circumstance an enemy of the people's congress and an enemy of the power of the people. It becomes part of the destructive movement of the exploitative, despotic, traditionalist society which is being destroyed by means of the revolutionary committees. This committee separates itself from the movement of the revolution and becomes a party cell which we must destroy. Why? Because it constitutes a danger to the power of the people.

Any revolutionary committee which exalts itself above the people's congress (such as a revolutionary committee in a university faculty) is considered to have slipped in this dangerous way.

The authority in the faculty is the Student People's Congress, and the function of the committee is to support the authority of the Student People's Congress, not to wrest power from it and act on its own and make the People's Congress marginal. This is destructive of the Jamahiriya, and it must be sacrificed in order to support the power of the People's Congress, not for the sake of its own authority. This applies to any revolutionary committee in a school, in a military barracks, in an academy, in a fundamental people's congress, or in any other vocational congress. This is the revolutionary conduct which will be observed starting from this juncture.

GROWING SAUDI INFLUENCE SATIRIZED

Tripoli AL-JAMAHIRIYAH in Arabic 23 Oct 81 p 3

[Article: "O Wearer of the 'Aba'ah...At Your Service!"]

[Text] The following are the seven conditions which Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz believes must be fulfilled in order to bring about a (just and complete) settlement in the Middle East, and which he set forth in a statement delivered by the Saudi News Agency with the date 7 August 1981:

1. Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, including the Arab city of Jerusalem.
2. Removal of all Israeli settlements erected by Israel in the occupied Arab territories after 1967.
3. The safeguard and guarantee of freedom of worship for all religions in the holy lands.
4. Recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to return to their country, and compensation for all Palestinians who do not wish to return.
5. Placement of the West Bank under the mandate of the United Nations for a transitional period that is not to exceed several months.
6. The formation of a Palestinian state with its capital at Jerusalem.
7. Recognition of the right of all nations in the region to live in peace.

The billowing jawal [sack-like garment] with four holes will become the fashion for Arab women, and the jilbab [robe], the headband, the 'aba'ah [cloak] and the poisoned dagger will become the fashion for "Arab" men!

The beard and the moustache, which resemble the Arabic letter nun will become the outstanding feature of the elegant man!

Bathing suits for men and women and unisex underwear are 100 percent Arab... and without a bottom. The woman coming from (...) and the (...) man [as published] will become a symbol of elegance and nobility and the power of endurance in all of our commercial advertisements.

The Arab fashion houses and famous salons are busy with these new banners in the world of fashion, choosing new names for these clothes and these new hairdos.

And on the popular level, many will give the names Fahd and Mas'ud to their sons and Hiqbah, Sa'udiyah and Naftiyah (from naft, petroleum) to their daughters.

The Arab commercial companies will vie to give the name Fahd to many fortifying drugs and beauty aids. Many of the shaykhs will dream--as did Shaykh 'Abd-al-Halim Mahmud--of Prince Fahd, and with him is the noble prophet, and they are both carrying the flag of the PLO. In order for each of them to obtain a royal reward and a gold watch, these steps are preceded by moves from the official authorities in more than one Arab country, and the sound of the (...) national anthem has become louder than the sound of the other national anthems, and the (...) flag flutters above and within the official Arab hearts. Perhaps soon, with the beginning of 1982, the headband, the 'aba'ah, and the dagger will become the flag of all Arabs, tied directly onto the poles. All of that will happen and maybe more, without exaggeration or imagination. The (...) age has begun which was announced by Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, former editor-in-chief of AL-AHRAM, and inaugurated by the death of Sadat.

The people are justified.

The liberation of Palestine will be achieved with (...) money, not by Arab revolution, as Haykal predicted, and as Fahd announced in his important plan. In preparation for this final important phase in the life of our nation, Arab swords will be made a part of the arsenal of all Arab armies as an advanced weapon excelling all modern weapons including the neutron bomb. Some organizations will abolish execution by hanging and will inaugurate the method of execution by the extremely humane sword.

The Arabs will read the (...) newspapers, which will all be published at the same time in the capitals of the world, and AL-MAJALLAH, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, SAYYIDATI and AL-MUSLIMUN [Saudi publications] will capture the minds of all Arabs and bewitch them with gold magic, or black magic.

The Arab papers will be filled with proclamations of the (...) age:

Sa'd-al-Din al-Shadhili: "I support the Fahd plan!"

Husni Mubarak: "No more attack and abdication!"

Yasir 'Arafat: "It is said that a mistake in the translation from the Arabic to the Japanese made the translator say that Yasir 'Arafat supports the Fahd plan."

There is nothing left for us to do but sing with Siham Rifqi the songs, "O Wearer of the 'aba'ah" and "Long live the Arab right, liberator of Palestine!"

QADHDHAF AL-DAM REAFFIRMS REVOLUTIONARY COMMITMENT

Tripoli AL-ZAHF AL-AKHIDAR in Arabic 2 Nov 81 p 3

[Editorial by Sayyid Qadhdhaf al-Dam: "My Pen is Full of Words"]

[Text] Anxiously, fellow countryman, day and night, you carry your head, walk with it, and with it you meet in your people's congresses. You use it to call out on your journeys, you use it to talk with your wife and your children, and you bow it in embarrassment before the shaykhs of the tribe and your father.

Anxiously, in spite of this, as the headache of the radio, the news of the borders, and the rumors of the sick intertwine and penetrate your superficial thoughts, and some of it sometimes plunges into your depths and inside your mind; which has become like a bird imprisoned in a dark room, occasionally illuminated so it can find a place to land.

Anxiously, fellow countryman, with your errors and your faults, and your virtues with your sincerity, and your hesitation, and your revolutionism, sometimes filled with revolution, and sometimes empty of it.

Anxiously, with your married life and your single life, in which you have your love, your social position, your revolutionism, and your politics.

Anxiously and avidly--and anxiety has tired even the fox--your head, which is already full, becomes more full, and you cannot take any more. This is reflected in your behavior which is full of anger, anxiety, and the hysteria of laughter... and hunting, playing cards, and submersion in depravity of all kinds. You flee outside in revolutionary, relaxing, intelligence work. You are in this condition until God is kind to you so you can live in a way that has no anxiety, because it requires no thought: traditionalists who take their monthly wages and spend the holidays with their family, whose way of thinking does not belong to this time.

They read only the marriage and death notices in the papers. They listen to BBC, and its world of backwardness. They turn their back to all that is positive, and they discuss the revolution through its negative aspects. They doubt those who are sincere because of the small errors which have caused anxiety and placed it above their heads like a covering to protect them from the rains of the insipid traditionalists who look for any opportunity to be revolutionary; they use their

revolutionism on appropriate occasions...The government officials, bound by work hours: production is limited to official work hours, and the form of the state appears clear and manifest to them through their suits and old traditional tie, and the words which they begin in the name of His Royal Highness. They are in the party of Satan, waiting for the moment when the fates will put them in power instead of the people.

Anxiously, fellow citizen, while you walk with them and live with them, and they judge you with their superficial judgments and correct you. In their hands is the solution, the assessment, hellfire, paradise, and life. But at the same time they suffer from psychological illness, a complex of deficiency and the blame of society, and they know full well that they are not prepared for either. The migration they undertook thanks to the revolution and change in Libya has brought them to a place where they have become a rival to the mirror in which they see their faces. The unbelievers all around them have gone to extremes in their drum beating, until they have lost the musical rhythm and have become just like the deaf Nicholas who married the mute girl, and the celebrants forced them to dance, in the novel, "The Bog," "Al-Hasna Mina." I don't know any logical reason for these traditionalists, citizens and government employees, who think that the revolution is only the overthrow of "His Royal Highness Idris al-Mufadda," which brought a leftist replacement to inherit the government. They have no relationship to the revolution, and they are just like instruments which are used but have no involvement in the thing for which they are used.

Anxiously, fellow countryman...Your radio station does not accompany you in thought or subject matter, for its poetry is emaciated, filled with praise for the revolution, until we have come to doubt that the revolution is in need of advertisement, like Kent cigarettes on Radio Monte Carlo.

Anxiously, while the world is full of poets for the sake of poetry alone, and musicians for the sake of mere music, and drum beaters for the sake of drum beating, and neutral thinkers who are for mere thought, and pure scientific stipulations for the sake of science alone...and here they are, competing.

Your revolutionary media have filled you with the revolution of words until many of the speeches, praises and slogans of blood, iron and fire come out of your ears, your mouth, your noses. But you are weighed down with it, filled to the brim, fettered with it when you stand, because of your official duty in serious work, because you are bound with shackles that keep you from moving, and maneuvers to counterattack against the reactionism which has begun to set up private companies for the sole purpose of investing in words, speeches, photographs and advertisements, as if you were a slate for advertisements, and every day they hang a new slogan on you.

Anxiously, fellow countryman. There is no part of your body left to which some pamphlet or slogan or article or poem has not been attached. Here you are reading, and the memory of the previous one is eating your body like mosquitoes, while you fidget in your place, as if you are reading for the first time. Now you know that you were led by the ears. Now you know for the first time that you were a theoretical participant in the revolution, not an active participant,

and that the revolution has no need for slates for advertisements as much as it needs men who think in purity and sincerity, and who work sacrificially, with no first or last; and who do not fear the ghosts of the traditionalists who think that the reward of bits of wages can correct individuals and cause them to carry out their orders, that as long as work is not self-motivated and is sincere, there is no need for it...Because we are in a society that sanctifies work, and gives it its due. Because our revolution is different from the rest of the military coups which rule by traditional sanctions. The revolution which we are living makes us work by ourselves, not bound to official working hours or holidays or the meager recompense with which the civil servants sometimes reward us, as if we were children at play, rejoicing over the offer of gifts.

Anxiously, fellow countryman, as you carry yourself and your years and your love for God and country.

On the other side is some insipid person who doubts your work and your personality and your ability to give. They pounce upon the noble ones so as to make them subjectively drift in their labyrinths so they can put holes in the structure of the revolution until they destroy its building when opportunity permits. But the building and structure differ in quantity and quality from the thoughts of the traditionalist civil servants who believe in the state of the traditional constitution and its insipid institutions. The metal of the revolutionaries differs completely from what goes on in the minds of the naive ones who deviate from the good taste of the revolutionaries. They recline on Fridays in the mosques and listen on Saturdays to the words of Shaykh Hamdan in the broadcast of the Israeli enemy. They are the actors who take the role of the Sanusis in public festivals and private parties. They are the ones whose features relax when by chance they hear of a revolutionary entanglement and of an effort to bring about good from it for the welfare of the revolution. They are the ones who hesitate to get excited about the revolution and to act with it.

They are those who watch what is happening from afar with an expression which seems to say, "When will the revolution cease," so they can make the pearls of the revolution go mad according to their mentality and way of thinking.

May they perish! We do not believe them, and their end and the fate of all who are with them and the rest of those who are behind them is just like the fate of the rams on the feast of the Greater Bairam, for we believe in the revolution out of conviction, because it is the beautiful dream...in spite of our usual immature way of putting it into practice.

We believe because we will never hesitate, and we will never take a step backwards; because we have seen close-up and within reach the gardens and flowers of the revolution, and we have no need at all of another hell, be it leftist or rightist, at the hands of a corrupt band which we know, each and every one.

With anxiety, fellow countryman, while you know them each and every one.

With anxiety, as you burn from conviction, and they burn you by scheming and deception in the service of reactionism and the counterrevolution.

Full of anxiety...and your mind is full...your heart is full, your eyes are full of tears...And your heart is full...full...full...of words.

PORT, AIRPORT PROJECTS DETAILED

Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 8 Dec 81 p 1

[Article: "Development, Modernization in Ports, Airports. 56 Million Riyals To Implement a Number of New Projects. Expansion of Port Qabus. New Equipment for al-Sib Airport"]

[Text] Salim Ahmad Khalfan, the deputy minister of communications for port and road affairs stated that the country is showing great interest in development and modernization of the port and airport sectors since these two sectors represent the paths of communication between the Sultanate and the outside world.

He said in an exclusive statement to 'UMAN that the ministry is determined to undertake implementation of a number of important projects in this field, the cost of which will be more than OR56 million.

Salim Ahmad Khalfan added that among the projects to be implemented in the ports sector is the project to expand Port Qabus to the Shutayfi Gulf and build an additional pier as well as deeper piers. More than OR30 million has been allocated for this.

In addition, a pier will be built for small ships in Sur at a cost of about OR3 million. Piers will also be built on Masirah Island and the Kuria Muria Islands and a traffic monitoring building will be built at Port Qabus.

He continued, saying that the airports sector will witness extensive development through the implementation of 25 projects, the cost of which will be over OR23 million.

He said that the goals of the projects are expansion of al-Sib airport, improvement of services for travellers at al-Sib airport and Salalah airport, increased electrical power, modernization of communications, navigation and fire-fighting equipment, expansion of maintenance facilities and construction of central storage warehouses at both airports. Besides this, there are a number of other projects related to aircraft supply activities and security considerations.

Salim Ahmad Khalfan continued, saying that in the past few months large-scale expansion had begun of Raysut Port which will convert it from a small port only capable of handling small ships and closed during the autumn months, to a large port which can handle large ships year-round with a capacity of 1 million tons per year. Presently, some of the necessary additional buildings are being completed and the special huge hoists are being installed to handle containers.

He added that next Sunday will be the opening day of a project to install the special hosts for delivering containers at Port Qabus. The port will then be ready to receive huge transport vessels via the most modern evolutionary means.

The deputy minister of communications for port and road affairs said that in light of the fact that the airport projects were of such extreme importance, characterized by sensitivity and a high level of specialized technical sophistication, the ministry had undertaken to study and research the expertise of international consulting firms specializing in airport activities. Certain firms were considered disqualified because of their lack of expertise in this field. The others were asked to present bids for a study of airport projects and the ministry is presently accepting these tenders so they can choose the best company.

CSO: 4404/173

CONSTRUCTION OF 20 SCHOOLS PLANNED FOR NEXT YEAR

Muscat OMAN DAILY OBSERVER in English 10 Dec 81 p 2

[Text]

OMAN'S Ministry of Public Works is planning to build 20 new primary and intermediate schools over the next year at a total estimated cost of OR5.63 million.

Three giant dormitories to house more than 700 students are also included in the plans.

A spokesman for the Ministry said the consultancy agreement for the design and supervision of the work had been awarded to G. Allan Herbert Associates.

The programme includes schools ranging in size from three classrooms to 24 classrooms, each one taking 40 students.

The larger schools will be air-conditioned and will have facilities such as a library and science laboratory, recreational facilities, sports hall, open playground, first aid room and a cafeteria. Each school will also have four units of teachers' accommodation.

The new schools are being built in areas where there are none at present.

In the Capital Area: Qurum Primary School, Mvaaz Primary School at Sya, Ruzaiq Primary

School at Swaqim, Sultan bin Mohed Albattashi at Almazare and Ghubra Primary School for Girls.

Batinah: Alwarith bin Kaab Intermediate School at Suwaiq and Khaboura Intermediate School.

Interior: Alewaifia Primary School at Bahla.

Muhafidah Musandam: Alkhaldia Intermediate School and Khassab Primary School.

Rostaq: Orabi Primary School, Alwoshall Primary School and Oraqi (Birkat al Muz) Primary School.

Central region: Bedia Alwusta Primary School and Wadi Bani Khalid Primary School.

Zahra: Alain Boarding School.

Dhofar: Alssan Primary School, Shriptat Primary School, Zaik Primary School and Shuwaima Primary School. Also Salalah Boarding School.

The three dormitories are being built in Salalah for 300 students, in Ibri for 180 students and on the Batinah for 250 students.

The work comes under the current Second Five Year Development Plan.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

REPORT ON CONFERENCE OF DEMOCRATIC UNIONS

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 5 Oct 81 p 32

[Article by Samir Muhammad: "Yemen's Democratic Unions Hold Special Conference; Present Phase of the Revolution Is the Phase of the Working Class; the Unions Have an Important Role as School for Theory of Scientific Socialism"]

[Text] From 15 to 17 September, the special general conference of the General Federation of Unions in the PDRY was held under the slogan, "Strengthen the role of the Yemeni working class and its union movement in the defense of the Yemeni revolution, the implementation of the five-year plan, and the achievement of the Yemeni unity." The conference took place under the sponsorship of the secretary general of the central committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party. The meeting was held at the School of Higher Socialist Sciences with 617 delegates and 59 observers in attendance, headed by Sultan al-Dawsh, first secretary of the federation central council. This conference followed a series of preparations and extensive activities.

Accomplishments of the Yemeni Working Class

Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad inaugurated the conference with a speech conveying deep understanding and correct guidance. His remarks prompted the conferees to adopt the speech as a basic conference document to be added to the other conference documents. The speech included the following: "We can say with great pride that our working class has now become more capable of forging the new revolutionary victories after having succeeded, alongside all the proletarian classes of the people, in toppling the old regime and building and strengthening the foundations of the rule of the proletariat in the popular democratic sense.... Under the true guidance of the ideas of scientific socialism, the class consciousness of the workers of our country constitutes a source of strength for the current revolutionary process in the country and a certain guarantee of its subsequent progress toward the completion of the democratic nationalist phase of the revolution with its socialist horizons." 'Ali Nasir Muhammad continued: "Since the economic situation is presently considered the cornerstone of the activity of the party and mass organizations and the organizations of the executive authorities, we must expand the scope of coordination and increase the exchange of work experience between the federation of unions and the farmer's federation. This will insure the mobilization of all the energies of the proletariat to be applied toward the implementation of the tasks that will arise before us in the coming period based on the policy of the party and the resolutions of the special general conference."

These remarks were preceded by an address opening the activities of the conference delivered by Comrade Sultan al-Dawsh, member of the central committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party and secretary general of the General Federation of Unions. In this address, Sultan al-Dawsh stated that the convening of the conference in the midst of the extensive activities that are being organized by the Yemeni working class and its union movement in the political, production, organizational, mass, and informational fields throughout all governorates of the PDRY is a tangible expression of the Yemeni working class's conscious understanding of the far-reaching importance behind the holding of the federation's special general conference. Al-Dawsh went on to assert that the convening of the conference within a short time after the special general conference of the Yemeni Socialist Party "lends deep significance to our conference in terms of its activism, inasmuch as this fact will enable our conference to accommodate all the demands of the forthcoming struggle of the Yemeni working class and the unions in defense of national sovereignty, national independence, and participation in the resolution of the problems and tasks of economic and social construction."

We Are Implementing Our Plans Systematically

Following the election of a leadership committee for the conference, Sultan al-Dawsh read the draft of the general report submitted to the conference by the central council. In confirmation of the democracy that prevailed at the conference, four delegates proposed revisions to the draft. The general report was approved unanimously and the revisions were adopted as the delegates chanted slogans over and over, including the following:

We struggle together ahead, ahead;
We implement our plans systematically, systematically;
In the factories and in the trenches, we will not sleep, will not sleep;
We will never retreat or meet defeat, defeat.

On the second day, a report containing the proposed amendments to the bylaws was read followed by a draft of the basic strategies of activity of the General Federation of Popular Democratic Unions of Yemen. The report and the draft met with complete agreement and support. Next the draft report of the Central Control and Financial Examination Committee was presented, after which the delegates voted unanimously in favor of the draft. In addition, the report of the Appeals Committee concerning the conduct of the affairs of the conference was approved unanimously.

During the fourth session, the final statement of the conference was approved and members were elected to the new central council of the General Federation of Unions. This council consists of 61 members and 6 candidates as well as a central inspection and control committee consisting of 11 members.

The conference concluded its affairs on 17 September 1981. In attendance were Comrade 'Abd-al-Ghani 'Abd-al-Qadir, member of the political office and secretary of the central committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party, a number of members of the central committee, and delegations from the socialist states and the Arab national liberation movements. Federation Secretary General al-Dawsh presented the results of the actions of the first sessions of the new central council and

the control and examination committee. Muhammad 'Abdallah Mahyub presented the federation's ideological and cultural secretary with the final statement issued by the conference. This was followed by remarks by Comrade Riyadh al-'Akbari speaking on behalf of the Yemeni Federation of Socialist Youth as well as speeches on behalf of the Farmer's Federation, the Organization of Popular Defense Committees, and the General Federation of Women of Yemen. Muhammad 'Abdallah Mahyub then saluted the central committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party in response to remarks delivered by central committee member Rajih Salih on behalf of the party.

Comrade al-Dawsh had hardly finished the concluding speech when the conferees began to shout together:

Our socialist party leads each stage;
The leadership is collective, by it we persevere.

Finally, the Yemeni national anthem and the International were played, signalling the conclusion of the conference's affairs.

During the sessions, many telegrams and greetings to and from the special general conference of the General Federation of the Popular Democratic Unions of Yemen were read. Telegrams were received from the General Federation of Workers of North Yemen, the Yemeni Federation of Socialist Youth, the Soviet unions, the Hungarian unions, the Vietnamese unions, and other groups.

Greetings were sent to the Omani revolution, the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese National Movement, the World Federation of Labor Unions, Arab and world liberation movements, the workers of Egypt, Sudan, and Morocco, and all the Arab workers who are struggling to win their union and democratic freedoms.

It is extremely important that the Yemeni working class and all workers in the world take pride in this conference, which was made up of 46 percent workers and 54 percent salaried employees and educated individuals. Women also had a role in the conference, making up 14 percent of the conferees.

8591
CSO: 4404/67

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

ROLE OF WOMEN IN SHAPING OF SOCIETY DISCUSSED

Kuwait: AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 18 Sep 81 p 11

[Interview with Fathiyah Muhammad 'Abdallah, secretary general of the General Federation of Women of Yemen and member of the Presidium; date and place not given]

[Text] It was perhaps the only time in modern history that a man occupying the position of deputy prime minister paid the price of his position of leadership for breaking the family law. This happened in the PDRY to 'Ali Salim al-Bid, member of the central committee of the ruling party, deputy prime minister, and member of the Supreme People's Council. Mr al-Bid married a woman who was also a member of the People's Council and this second marriage violated the family law issued on 5 January 1974. According to the law, there were no obstacles or reasons in his first marriage that were sufficient to justify his marriage to a second woman.

Since Mr al-Bid was more aware than others of the necessity of strict adherence to the law, including the family law, he was prosecuted and lost his position as deputy prime minister. His membership in the central committee was turned over to an alternate and then he was dismissed.

The trial, which took place several months ago, was a phenomenon of political leadership which is unprecedented in modern history.

Highest Office Held by a Woman in the Arab World

Fathiyah Muhammad 'Abdallah is the secretary general of the General Federation of Women of Yemen (and, incidentally, occupies the highest office held by a woman in the Arab world, namely, membership on the Presidium of the PDRY's People's Council--the organization which collectively exercises the responsibilities of leadership of the republic). Fathiyah says that in the past 7 years, the family law in the PDRY has succeeded in achieving fundamental changes in the social relationship between men and women by giving both sexes absolute equality of rights and responsibilities. These include marriage responsibilities, equality of wages, and equal sharing of daily expenses.

Young women now have complete say in choosing their life partners. This also applies to divorce, which is now based on mutual consent if it becomes impossible to get along. The family law also places an upper limit of 100 dinars on

the dowry, with the provision that the bride and groom must be no more than 20 years apart in age.

Equality in Positive and Negative Things

Concerning the rise in the divorce rate in PDRY society, in which women outnumber men, the secretary of the general federation said: "The rise in the divorce rate is considered a healthy phenomenon resulting from the restructuring of social and family relations. Equality has positive and negative aspects which are borne equally by both parties. In the event of a divorce, both the man and the woman share in child support if both are working. Care of young children is the responsibility of the woman. If the woman dies, the responsibility falls first to the woman's mother and then to the husband's mother." Miss Fathiyah Muhammad 'Abdallah added: "The labor law equalized wages between women and men. It gave women a 2-month child-birth leave along with the right to 1 year of leave without pay to care for the child during the first year. There is complete equality between men and women in inheritance."

Yemeni Women Can Say "No"

Fathiyah Muhammad 'Abdallah believes that the greatest change in social concepts is the realization of the right of the Yemeni woman to say "No"--or in other words, the achievement of the maximum degree of democracy. Women can now put forward their complete convictions and express their opinions independently in the home, in the workplace, and in the Supreme People's Council. As a result of free nomination and election, women now hold six seats in the Supreme People's Council and almost 10 percent of the membership in the local people's assemblies in the governorates.

The secretary general of the General Federation of Women of Yemen feels that the process of changing social concepts that has been carried through during the last few years has affected both broad fundamentals and minute details, extending all the way to the Yemeni woman's concept of elegance, adornment, and attire. After young Yemeni women entered the entire spectrum of work sectors, they began to consider elegance as being simplicity with adornment. Therefore, the Yemeni woman very rarely wears bright makeup during work. It should be noted that a number of cultural lectures include direct or indirect warnings to the woman against excessive self-adornment. However, at social gatherings such as weddings, the Yemeni woman compensates for any lack of elegance so that you almost wouldn't know that she was working in an office or plant in the morning.

Most working women wear pants and blouses which are loose-fitting and permit ease of movement. They wear shoes with comfortable heels that do not hamper movement.

Total Elimination of Illiteracy Among Women by 1983

Reviewing the history of the General Federation of Women of Yemen, Fathiyah said: "The federation was formed in February 1968 and the first general conference was held in 1974. The federation currently consists of almost 12,000 women from all governorates. It has a pyramidal structure starting with the governorate committees and extending to the subdistricts, districts, and governorates and finally to the central council, which presently has 51 members.

"One of the first goals of the federation was to involve women in the country's economic building process. Another of these goals was the education of young women. The first conference affirmed the necessity of giving women opportunities to pursue higher studies and complete secondary education in all the governorates, thus allowing equality between boys and girls in educational programs.

"After this, the federation sponsored the opening of nursery schools to help the working woman care for her children during working hours. There are now 23 nursery schools throughout the various governorates, some of which the women of the federation helped build. With these nursery schools, the family pays a nominal fee of no more than one-half dinar per month."

Continuing her interview with AL-SIYASAH, at which Miss Radiyah Shamshir was also present, Fathiyah Muhammad 'Abdallah added the following remarks concerning the responsibility of the ideological office of the federation: "The elimination of illiteracy among women is presently the foremost problem that the federation is working on in cooperation with the state. We have a central resolution which states that the PDRY shall be free of female illiteracy before the arrival of 1983.

At the beginning of the revolution, the illiteracy rate was almost 90 percent. This made the dissemination of new ideas and concepts difficult. Women responded to the anti-illiteracy campaign and the efforts of the General Federation of Women in different degrees in the various governorates. It is no secret that the existing social structure in some governorates has slowed down the elimination of illiteracy. The effort has also been hampered in some of the remote governorates by the spread of rumors warning the women against responding to the efforts and ideas of the federation on the pretext that we are communists. In any case, the response of the new generation has been stronger and more widespread. Therefore, we hope that we will have eliminated female illiteracy once and for all by the end of 1983."

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AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS REVIEWED

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 25 Sep 81 p 8

[Article: "Expenditure of 61.8 Billion Riyals for Agricultural Development During Third Development Plan in Saudi Arabia"]

[Text] The victorious leader "Abd al-'Aziz did not content himself solely with bringing together areas and regions, raising the banner of unity: "There is no god but God, and Muhammad is His prophet." Rather, he strove to establish a social and economic action program called the "sea system." It aimed at converting the desert society into a settled society enjoying peace. For every agricultural settlement he chose a site close to water, as proof of progress and stability.

For 50 years the state has been making continuous efforts to develop agriculture and settle the desert.

Perhaps the most outstanding example of this is the fact that the total expenditure for agriculture during the third development plan is 61.8 billion riyals, of which 18.7 billion riyals are for the Ministry of Agriculture and Water; 8.2 billion riyals for the Agricultural Bank; and 34.9 billion riyals for the State Desalinization Authority. The sum of 12.2 billion riyals has been appropriated for the agricultural sector in the national budget of fiscal year 1401/1400 H. [1980-1981]. This is one-fifth the total expenditure authorized for this sector in the development plan. The plan has set the annual average growth rate in the agricultural sector at 5 percent.

To augment the development of water sources which were completed in the period between 1383 and 1392 H. [1963 and 1972], surveys are being conducted in eight geological areas. Detailed studies are being made of water sources in specific areas. Of the nine water formations discovered, two, al-Wasi' and al'Manjur in the al-Wasat District, are now being developed and exploited to provide a major part of the water requirements of Riyadh. Essential survey operations are now being prepared at other water formations in Um Radah, al-Dammam, and Niyujin in al-Sharqiyah, and al-Saq, al-Wahid and Tabuk in al-Qasim and the Northern Province. Surveys have been completed for underground water sources in al-Ihsa' in al-Sharqiyah, al-Madinah, Wadi Khallis, and Wadi Tarbah. Hydrological studies are being made for 10 basins and other depressions to evaluate the need to build dams.

In 1400 H. [1980] agreement was reached on a system for preserving water. On the basis of it, the Ministry of Agriculture and Water was made responsible for preserving water sources, protecting them from pollution, and trying to develop them. The third development plan recommends establishing a national water plan and proposes managing water consumption.

In order to control floods and raise the subsurface water level, the Ministry of Agriculture and Water has built approximately 50 new dams. Some of these are concrete, and others are made of earth and covered with a layer of concrete. The most prominent of these dams is the Wadi Jizan dam which was completed in 1393 H. [1973]. It has a holding capacity of 51 million cubic meters and will facilitate the irrigation of 6,000 hectares of agricultural land, once work on its canal system is completed. In addition, approximately 90 percent of the construction work on the Wadi Najran dam has been completed. It is one of the largest dams in the kingdom, with a holding capacity of roughly 85 million cubic meters. Work is underway on construction of nine other dams, including one with a holding capacity of 10 million cubic meters and an earthen dam with a holding capacity of 20 million cubic meters serving the Ta'if area.

Preliminary estimates indicate the existence of approximately 4.5 million hectares of arable land of which 400,000 hectares are under cultivation, 600,000 hectares can be adapted for agriculture, and 3.4 million hectares are reclaimable for agriculture. Development projects are being implemented in Wadi Jizan, Wadi Damad, Wadi al-Dawasir, al-Jawf, and al-Iflaj to reclaim a total of 21,000 hectares for cultivation through irrigation. Similar projects will be implemented in areas of the al-Wasat, the Northern Province, and al-Sharqiyah to reclaim roughly 15,000 more hectares during the third plan. The government intends to distribute or rent flatlands in large parcels to investors of the private sector for agricultural exploitation, utilizing agricultural mechanization. In addition, it has distributed wasteland in small parcels, in accordance with the land distribution program, to either develop for agriculture or use for agricultural industrial projects. In mid-1400 H. [1980] nearly 98,848 hectares were distributed to approximately 14,554 citizens, and there were 60 new projects, including those for poultry, dairy products, and sheep-fattening.

It was evident that by the end of the second development plan, the kingdom had become self-sufficient for approximately 90 percent of its vegetables, 70 percent of its fresh milk, and 27 percent of its wheat. Progress has not been limited to basic agriculture. There have been improvements in fields requiring concentration of capital investment. By the end of 1398 H. [1978], there were 276 commercial poultry farms, 118 of which were for egg production; 12 operational dairy farms; and 16 other farms which had obtained construction permits. The production of chickens for consumption rose from 21,000 tons in 1396 H. [1976] to 29,000 tons in 1398 H. [1978].

During the same period, egg production rose from 8,500 tons to 19,000 tons. Milk production on a commercial scale rose from 17,000 tons to 22,000 tons.

Programs of the third development plan include continuation of the successful projects of the second development plan currently underway and establishment of a strong agricultural sector through short-term and medium-term development programs.

The agricultural services program in the Third Five-Year Plan aims at providing agricultural services, outside the scope of farms, which farmers cannot provide for themselves. Among the most important of these activities is establishing new agricultural cooperatives and expanding the domain of public gardens.

Agricultural Credit

In 1384 H. [1964-65] the Saudi Arabian Agricultural Bank established branches in Riyadh, Jiddah, Baridah, 'Ibha, and al-Hufuf, with an initial capital of 10 million riyals. By the end of the First Five-Year Plan, the bank was running 10 branches and 43 branch offices in addition to the main headquarters in Riyadh. Its paid capital rose to 103 million riyals. During the same period, the number of loans offered by the bank rose from 625 in 1384 H. [1964-65] to 16,251 in 1394-95 H. [1974-75]. By the end of 1399 H. [1979], the bank had established branches in Riyadh, al-Kharj, Jiddah, Baridah, al-Hufuf, al-Madinah, Ha'il, al-Jawf, Jayzan, Tabruk, and 'Ibha. These branches are supported by 52 branch offices.

The Second Five-Year Plan witnessed a tangible increase in the number and amount of loans given the agricultural sector. The amount of short-term loans increased more than five-fold.

In the Third Five-Year Plan the state intends to grant 5 billion riyals in loans and 2.5 billion riyals in aid to the private agricultural sector. Attention will be given to improving the quality of loans.

Animal Production and Fish Resources

Animal production in the kingdom depends upon grazing land and herding in a mainly natural environment. Total grazing area has been estimated at approximately 210 million hectares, of which 5 percent is excellent land, and 31 percent, good land. Despite the lack of favorable conditions, animal production is increasing. Through irrigation, fodder production can be doubled.

The coast of the kingdom extends nearly 1,760 kilometers along the Red Sea and roughly 560 kilometers along the Arab Gulf. Total annual production of fish is approximately 16,000 tons, although the UN Food and Agricultural Organization [FAO] has estimated that 300,000 to 500,000 tons can be obtained annually. The fishing fleet which operates on the Red Sea coast consists of roughly 1,200 fishing boats, varying in length from 6 to 8 meters, with nearly 2,400 fishermen working on them. In the Gulf region, there are approximately 200 boats of between 8 and 20 meters in length, with nearly 2,000 fishermen working on them.

The Marine Resources Research Center in Jiddah has begun a number of studies and research projects aiming at developing fish resources. The center has conducted a comprehensive survey of the kingdom's coasts. It has carried out a number of experiments to determine the best methods of fishing these coasts. It has also conducted a number of experiments on pisciculture which have confirmed that it could be successful. The kingdom joined in forming the Arab Fisheries Company in 1399 H. [1979]. The Council of Ministers has agreed to establish the Saudi Fish Company to exploit marine resources in both international and Saudi territorial waters and to process and market the fish. It was set up in accordance

with Royal Decree No M-7 of 8 Jamada al-Ula 1400 H. [24 April 1980]. Its capital was 100 million riyals, distributed in 1 million shares, with a value of 100 riyals per share. The government owns 40 percent of the shares, the public owns 29.6 percent, and the founders own the rest. The government has renewed its contribution to the training center at fishing grounds in Kuwait and to the project to develop the fishing grounds of nations of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. Also, the kingdom has become a member of the Indian Ocean Fisheries Committee.

7811

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INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR PEACE PLAN DISCUSSED

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 242, 10 Oct 81 pp 28-29

[Article by Ghassan Bayram: "Fahd Plan Becomes Arab-European Initiative at UN"]

[Text] After the visit of French President Francois Mitterrand to Saudi Arabia, official information emanating from the Saudi capital summarized the results of this visit, saying that it had achieved great success in reaching agreement on unifying the Arab and European positions on the alternative plan for the Camp David accords.

Clearly, the discussions held by the French president with Saudi leaders led to mutual understanding on a framework in which the European initiative can be merged with the plan of Saudi Crown Prince Fahd to solve the Middle East crisis, or to be exact, the Palestinian problem.

The French capital did not use the same terms as the Saudis to summarize the results of the French-Saudi summit talks, but in describing the results, it did express the same spirit which flows, consequently, in one stream. The information which came out of Paris said that the Ta'if talks were not French-Saudi talks in reality and in their objectives so much as they were Arab-European negotiations and talks which succeeded in reaching a basic understanding on unifying the European and Arab position, in order to open new doors on peace efforts in the Middle East. Those doors had been closed when the Camp David accords exhausted their potential objectives and stopped at a dead end when autonomy negotiations between Egypt and Israel failed.

The belief, which has prevailed up to now may be true and perhaps confirmed. It is that France, under the Socialist regime, came to Saudi Arabia to preserve political and economic gains and positions which the policies of France under De Gaulle and Giscard d'Estaing had succeeded in achieving over the past 14 years in the Arab world. However, it is also true that the President of France came to Saudi Arabia carrying the cloak of Europe and declaring himself to be a negotiator on behalf of the European community on the entire Middle East crisis.

Before President Mitterrand came to Saudi Arabia, his country was most explicit and frank in confirming the European character of his mission and consequently, in confirming something else, namely that the French position in particular, and the European position in general, on a solution to the Middle East crisis (although so far it has not enjoyed the support or approval of the Americans) cannot

proceed in this move to the extent which brings the French nation and the European community into opposition with the United States.

Thus the position was most explicit on the part of the French. Accordingly, the Saudi position which preceded the visit and talks was no less clear. One may confirm here, relying on information from Paris and Riyadh, that there was advance agreement between them before they entered into talks.

There was no reason for the Saudi kingdom or any other Arab capital to be angry over French recognition that this new European move, now being undertaken through Paris, is not proceeding in isolation from Washington and cannot be carried to a point of collision with the American administration in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia, like any other Arab state, wants the European initiatives to be coordinated with American directives, so that these initiatives bear fruit and achieve results. It does not want them to remain merely positions put forward, while the American giant stands worlds apart, because this tends not only to obstruct a solution, but also to increase the complexity of the Middle East crisis and perhaps even carry it further away from solution.

Resisting Moscow

Before the Saudi crown prince and prime minister disclosed his alternative plan for achieving a just and lasting solution to the Palestinian problem, Western and Arab officials had begun to understand a reality which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia could not face alone. It is the combatting of Soviet and communist influence in the Middle East, at a time when the United States persists in its denial of and hostility toward Palestinian-Arab rights and continues to give complete cover to Israel and its expansionist, aggressive policies. At the same time, the other giant, namely the Soviet Union, whose influence should be fought and opposed, is taking a public stand on the side of the just Palestinian cause and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arabs.

Before the visit of the French president to Saudi Arabia was agreed upon and the date of the visit was set, and before the matter of supplying the Saudi kingdom with American AWACS took on such dimensions and became such a contest of Arab and Israeli influence within the American administration and its moving forces, there had to be a Western power supporting the Saudi kingdom, not only in its opposition to the communist threat in the region, but also in its battle to bring down the Camp David policy and present an acceptable alternative.

Informed Arab parties say that work had begun in this direction before the Socialists came to power in France and continued actively after the fall of Giscard d'Estaing and the victory of President Mitterrand. Informed Arab parties confirm that the French were the first to know about the plan presented by Prince Fahd, because the choice had fallen originally on the European community to stand on the side of Saudi Arabia, to work with it in the beginning, and to reach agreement with it on developing this coordination, in order to carry the Saudi initiative to the stage where it put on Arab clothes and became an Arab initiative. From there it would turn into a joint Arab-European initiative.

The choice of France to lead the European position and move it in this direction grew out of many considerations. The first was that France was prepared to perform this role, because its position on the Palestinian problem and Arab rights

is relatively advanced in relation to the positions of the other nations of the European community. These considerations are based on the fact that France has been and is now the most determined, desirous and prepared to play this role. The third consideration is the international status of France as a great power, and consequently, its effective, influential, and leading role within the European community which was enhanced by the impact of Paris is having received a mandate from the two most important nations within the European community, namely Great Britain and West Germany. There are also other considerations, including, for example, the report that with its new regime, France has become a negotiator which Israel finds acceptable to some extent.

Eliminating French Reserve

The preliminary and preparatory contacts which dealt with arriving at a way to convert Prince Fahd's plan into an Arab-European initiative encountered problems and difficulties. The greatest problem was that France in particular and the European community in general had reservations about specific articles of Prince Fahd's plan, especially about the article concerning Jerusalem and its being made the capital of the new Palestinian state. Europeans have a different position which supports the internationalization of Jerusalem.

The other article in question concerns the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The Europeans have a middle-of-the-road position on this question. It recognizes the PLO as a principal party among those representing the Palestinian people and allows the PLO to participate in peace negotiations as one of the representatives of the Palestinian people.

The French capital has demonstrated a strong commitment to this position which it feels creates a kind of balance in the European position between the PLO and Israel. This position neither irritates Israel greatly nor satisfies the Palestinians greatly.

At the same time the French have insisted on this position, the French capital has also insisted that its position on the Palestinian problem in general should be considered to be far in advance of the French government's stand during the administration of Giscard d'Estaing. The former government used to advocate recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, but not establishment of a state for the Palestinians. Meanwhile, the current French administration under the leadership of President Mitterrand has turned it upside down and recognized the right of the Palestinian people to a state, without recognizing the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. It has said that the PLO is one of the representatives of the Palestinian people. French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson met with PLO leader Yasir Arafat on this basis. President Mitterrand is also ready to receive him and meet with him in the future, once agreement is reached on certain arrangements.

Whether these preliminary contacts and talks took place during the Paris visit of the Saudi ruler King Khalid and later during the visit of Prince Fahd, or whether they took place through various diplomatic channels, they did succeed in taking the objective of this Arab-European meeting into consideration. In this stage, the objective is more important than certain details. Thus the

formula agreed upon is that France, and behind it Europe, considers Prince Fahd's plan acceptable on the whole, but not in detail, as long as the spirit of the plan is based on finding a peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis or the problem of the Arab-Israeli struggle.

Arab-European Initiative

Information which began to surface in the Saudi and French capitals after the visit confirmed that the agreement in principle on this formula laid the basis for successful Saudi-French summit talks in Ta'if in arriving at a definition of the phased steps which both Saudi Arabia and France agreed to take in order to convert Prince Fahd's plan into an Arab-European initiative.

At the next meeting of the Council of the European Common Market, France will make a proposal calling for the adoption of Prince Fahd's plan, as a whole, as an acceptable initiative to achieve peace between the Arabs and Israel and solve the Palestinian problem, with reservations on the subject of Jerusalem and the PLO problem.

In exchange for this, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will undertake to carry out another measure which will lead to the conversion of the Prince Fahd plan into an Arab initiative. The Kingdom will seek to include this topic in the agenda of the Arab summit conference to be held in Morocco next month for the purpose of making a united Arab decision on this matter.

After this Arab-European meeting, the initiative will be submitted to the UN General Assembly for a vote and adoption of a resolution.

Following this step, the Arab-European effort will be directed toward making this initiative a main clause on the agenda of the bilateral summit expected to be held between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev.

The French and Saudis recognize that this last step will undoubtedly be the most difficult in this stage of joint Arab-European political activity to achieve a comprehensive, permanent solution to the Middle East crisis. Redoubled efforts are required, and France and Saudi Arabia have agreed to undertake them in intense fashion during a subsequent stage in which the battle revolving around the AWAC's deal must be decided once and for all. The manner in which it is settled will certainly open a new page in Arab-U.S. relations.

Many questions are circulating in certain informed Arab circles about how far this Arab-European move can go and the results which can be achieved with regard to a solution of the Middle East crisis.

These questions are being raised in an atmosphere where a certain feeling prevails, namely that when the two great giants decide to consent and agree on the solution to the region's crisis, they may not make room for a third party, no matter who it is or how big it is, to join as a participant in planning the framework and broad outline of the solution. What will happen if the conflict continues between the two great powers over the basis and principles of the solution? These are among the matters which are presently understood very well and pondered at length.

BRIEFS

POSITION ON SAUDI PEACE PLAN--Syrian sources said that the position that was recorded in the minutes of the Arab foreign ministers meetings at Fez was "that Syria does not think that endorsement of the Saudi peace plan is in the cards nor does it believe that accusations directed against the plan were true. Syria does not support the plan even though it contains some positive points. One reason is that there is no room in the region for a settlement. Israel will not agree to any settlement as long as the United States allies itself with her and supports her in the same manner. Furthermore, the United States does not want a peace that would guarantee a minimum of Arab rights. Another reason is that the Arab situation is currently suffering from fragmentation. If the Arabs were not able to achieve anything after the October war how can they achieve something now with Camp David in the background? The third reason is that acceptance of the Saudi principles at the summit would have led to increased division among the Arabs. The psychological aspect of the Arab citizens must also be considered. They see Israeli intransigence intensifying and listen to successive Israeli threats to annex the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan, not to mention Israel's intervention in Lebanon, violation of Saudi airspace and bombing of the reactor in Baghdad. Then comes the summit to tell the Arab citizen that we, the Arabs, must make an initiative?" [Excerpts] [Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 250, 5 Dec 81 p 17]

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